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THE HARDINGS IN AMERICA

THE HARDINGS IN AMERICA

A GENEALOGICAL REGISTER
OF THE DESCENDANTS OF
JOHN HARDING, OF ENGLAND
BORN A. D., 1567 * * *

COMPILED AND EDITED BY
WILBER J. HARDING



1925
THE HARDING PRINTING CO.
KEYSTONE, IOWA

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BY
WILBER J. HARDING

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TO MY WIFE

My Partner, My Sweetheart, My Chum,
through whose inspiration, encouragement
and assistance has been made possible the
preservation and publication of this record
of the family's "descent from the Immortal
Puritans,"

This Volume is Affectionately Dedicated.



FOREWORD

THE PREPARATION and publication of a genealogical record such as this little volume purports to be, entails an amount of work inconceivable to one who has never undertaken a similar task, but fully appreciated by those who have ever made a similar effort.

And to those who, during the past years have rendered aid to the end that the work might be as complete as it is now humanly possible to make it, the compiler desires to express his sincere appreciation of their efforts. It has been a work of love for all of us, without hope or expectation of financial recompense, but with a desire that the history and traditions of the family might be preserved for the benefit of future generations.

The compiler realizes that with families scattered to all parts of the country and old family records poorly or indifferently kept, it has been a difficult matter for some branches of the family to be as fully represented as might be desired, but suggests that the blank pages provided in the book be used by every family possessing this work to make sure that all family events are fully recorded hereafter, to the end that any future edition or supplement that may be issued may be correct and down to date.

This little book represents the result of nearly thirty-five years of patient research, and if it meets with the appreciation of its possessors the compiler will feel that his efforts have at least not been in vain.

The family that furnished a notable line of men and women from the earliest pioneers of America to one who reached the highest pinnacle in the gift of the people of the greatest nation the world has ever known, is a family of which all may be justly proud, and the compiler of this record is proud of the fact that he has been enabled to present it to members of the family of the present and future generations.

W. J. HARDING.

INTRODUCTION TO EDITION OF 1907

SO FAR as the writer has been able to ascertain, there has been but one attempt to compile a complete genealogical history of the Harding family. In 1864, Rev. Abner Morse, A. M., member of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society, issued from the press of W. H. Dutton & Son, Boston, a series of publications under the title of "A Genealogical Register of the Descendants of Several Ancient Puritans." Vol. IV of this series contained the Harding genealogy. The work was more or less incomplete and was intended for little more than an introduction to a more complete work contemplated for a few years later, but before this was accomplished death called the venerable author from the field of his labor, and in the great Boston fire of 1872 nearly the whole of the earlier edition was destroyed. Rev. Morse was a very able man, and was, perhaps, one of the most painstaking and careful investigators of old records New England has produced. He spent many years in compiling genealogical histories of old New England families, and the descendants of many "Ancient Puritans" owe to him a great debt of gratitude for preserving for their benefit the early history of the lives and affairs of their ancestors which might otherwise have never been recovered. Much of the material used in the present work concerning the early members of the family has been gleaned from his early work and supplemented with the additions and corrections which would have appeared in his later and finished work had he been spared to carry it to completion.

At its inception the present work was intended to comprise only that particular branch of the family to which the compiler's family belonged, but as the work progressed much material of historic value to the several branches collected until it was decided to enlarge the scope to embrace practically all of the branches descendant from Stephen Harding, the "Blacksmith of Providence," who was a son of the original Richard of "Brantry," the elder

of the "three emigrant brothers" whose landing on American soil dates practically from the time of the Pilgrim Fathers at Plymouth. That there has been omissions of names and dates in the present work is obvious, but when one considers the vast number of branches which have sprung from the main trunk of the family tree it may be readily seen that an absolutely complete and correct family genealogy in a first edition is almost an impossibility. It is to the living members of the family that the compiler must turn to ask that omissions may be supplied and errors corrected, and to quote the language of the venerable author of the original work who recognized the imperfections of his compilation, " * * * to render aid the reader must banish mental laziness, prefer a work of love to cavils at imperfection, write plain and look for his reward in the acknowledgement and recollection of his service, and in the gratitude of posterity. If these will not move him, then let his posthumous character be insured against the reproaches of descendants for having, in his negligence, cut them off from the recovery of their genealogy and proof of their descent from the immortal Puritans."



HARDING COAT OF ARMS

OF THE Coats of Arms of the ancient Hardings, Burke, in General Armory gives no less than fifteen distinct coats of arms by the name of Hardin and Harding, several of which have simplicity enough to have been displayed in the Holy Wars, A. D. 1096-1291, when Heraldry was in its infancy.

In his Landed Gentry Burke mentions a family who had their seat at Upcott, near Barnstable, who had their seat at a very early period at Comb Martin in Devonshire, who derived their descent from Fitz (son of) Harding. Of this family was the learned Theo. Harding, D.D. and undoubtedly Lady Gorges, wife of Sir Robert, and not improbably the ancestors of the New England Hardings. This coat of arms was conferred by Henry III in 1265 upon Willus Harding (Gent) of Manor Arden in Longcroft, Staffordshire, for an especially brilliant exploit at the battle of Eversham which resulted in the defeat and death of Earl Simon de Montford and the restoration of King Henry to power.

This coat of arms is thus described: Arg. (silver) on a bend; azure, three martlets, gold; Crest, a falcon, displayed proper. A copy of this coat of arms was reproduced by the Daughters of the American Revolution, the original wash drawing of which is owned by Miss Abigail V. Harding of Marion, Ohio, and from which the engraving herewith was made.



Harding

PART I.

Origin of the Name

The First on American Soil

The Pioneers

Hardings of Colonial Days

CHAPTER I.

ORIGIN OF THE NAME

HARDIN is doubtless a Gothic word, being retained with only slight differences in all the Gothic dialects. It was extremely early in Europe. It existed in Germany, Scandinavia and Britain prior to the introduction of the feudal system and the erection of permanent castles, and for many centuries before the adoption of surnames and the formation of the dialects of Northern Europe.

The Gothic tribes, and especially the Saxons, seem to have delighted in the word, as though it was their sobriquet of some successor of Woden or son of Thor, or significant of such material qualities as they most admired, or commemorative of some historical event in which they gloried, for between the settlement of Hengirst and Horsa in England in A. D. 469, and the Conquest, they had given it to seven and probably nine localities in the south and central parts of the Kingdom. "Doomsbook," written about A. D. 1086, mentions Hardintone (town) in Somertshire, Hardintone in Oxfordshire, Hardinstorp (village) in Northampton and Hardintona and Hardingtona in the west of England. These towns probably received their names about A. D. 600, when the Saxons began to erect towns and establish a form of feudalism which after 1068 was so improved upon by the Conqueror. These places have retained their names and we find in the Index Villaris of England, published by Adams in 1680, the names of Hardington, Hardingham, Hardingle, two Hardingtons, and three Hardings, which were the seats of Earls, Baronets, Knights and Gents.

Hardin and Harding were common names in England in 1086, and during the eleventh century became surnames in circumstances evincive of distinction if not of noble rank. Burke, in his "General Armoury" gives no less than fifteen distinct coats of

arms by the name of Hardin and Harding.

The same author in his "Landed Gentry" mentions a family seated at Baraset, Stafford-on-Avon, who originated from the manor of Arden of Longcroft in Staffordshire, and who boast of Saxon blood and distinction for a century before the conquest, deriving direct descent from Siward de Arden, who about 1600 adopted the orthography of Harding. He reports another family who have their seat at Upcott, near Barnstable, who had their seat at a very early period at Comb Martin, in Devonshire, who derived their descent from Fitz (son of) Harding. From this family it is not improbable descended the ancestors of the New England Hardings.

From the foregoing brief account of the origin of the name it is evident that the name has long abounded in dignity, and from the Bodleian Library and Athenea Oxonienses we find that it has made its mark in literature. "Harding's Chronicles" and a curious map of Scotland was a presentation book to Edward IV, who rewarded the author with a pension for his "zeal and hazards"; Samuel Harding received his A. B. at Exeter college in 1620 and was the author of a tragedy in 1640; John Harding, D. D., Dean of Rochester, was president of Magdalen college, Cambridge during the reign of Charles II. But the most eminent of the names was probably Theo. Harding, D. D., the Reformer. He was born at Basconton, in Devonshire, in 1512, received his A. B. in 1536 and A. M. in 1542 at New College, Cambridge; was later made Professor of Hebrew in the University of Cambridge, and was afterwards Chaplain to Henry Gray, Marquis of Dorchester and subsequently Duke of Suffolk. He died Sept. 16, 1572, and was buried in the church of St. Gertrude Lovian.

Rev. Stephen Harding was rector of Trinity church, Stratford-upon-Avon at the time Shakespeare was buried, as is recorded upon a brass tablet in the church.

CHAPTER II.

FIRST ON AMERICAN SOIL

IN SEEKING to uncover the identity of those early pioneers who may be classed as the "First Hardings on American Soil", the historian must go back to the work, "A Briefe Narration of the Original Undertakings of the Advancement of Plantations into the Parts of Amerika, especially Showing the Beginnings, Progress and Continuance of that of New England," written by Sir Ferdinando Gorges in 1658.

According to this, which must be considered, authentic history of these undertakings, Captain Sir Robert Gorges, a son of Sir Ferdinando, for his valient services to the crown during the "Venitian Wars" was in 1623 appointed by the Council of New England, "Governor of the Plymouth Country," and for himself was given a grant to a tract of land four miles wide on Massachusetts Bay and extending 30 miles into the interior.

A few years previous to this appointment Capt. Gorges had taken for a wife Mary Harding, described in the work as "the daughter and heir of William Harding, Gent."

Immediately after the appointment an expedition was fitted out at the port of Harwick, County of Essex, to take the new official and his party to his estate in the new world. And from the account mentioned we find that Gov. Gorges was accompanied by Lady Gorges, his wife, a clergyman of the Church of England, and "sundrie passengers and their families." The exact date of their departure from Harwick is not known, but it is recorded that the party reached the shores of America in August, 1623.

In the list of passengers with the Governor we find the names of John Harding, wife and young sons, Joseph Harding and Richard Harding and wife and infant son.

On arriving in America Gov. Gorges and party pitched upon

Wessagusset, which had already been abandoned by Weston's people, later Weymouth Landing, partly in Braintree, "intending there to begin a plantation," that being the "place he had resolved to make a residence." And here we find seated the most ancient Hardings in New England when the records begin ten years later, and here for a century or more was the geographical center of the family.

Early in the records of the Puritan settlement at Wessagusset are found the names and records of a number of Hardings, Hardens and Harradens—all believed to be more or less united by the ties of kinship,—who came either with the original party with Gov. Gorges or shortly thereafter, and omitting from this record all who have been proven to have no direct connection with the line we are tracing, there remains:

- I Richard
- II Joseph
- III John
- IV Abraham
- V Stephen

In the list of passengers accompanying Mary (Harding) Gorges and her influential husband to the New World we find the first three mentioned, and all indications point to the presumption that they were three brothers, cousins of Lady Gorges.

From Burke's "Landed Gentry" we learn that the early seat of the Hardings in England was at Upcott, near Barnstable, and that their descent was derived from Fitz Harding, and circumstances further point to the presumption that from this family came William Harding, the father of Mary, who as Lady Gorges was probably the first of the name to reach American soil. From the very earliest times there has been a tradition in the family of "three immigrant brothers who came to America at about the time of the Pilgrim Fathers," and this tradition has been borne out by later investigations and has been generally accepted as a matter of history and fact.

The fact that Mary Harding Gorges has been described as

the "daughter and heir" of William Harding places her, according to an authoritative writer on the subject of early family histories, as "a woman without brothers," consequently the three other Hardings named could not have been brothers of Mary. An examination of the early "shire records" of Northampton discloses the copy of the will of one John Harding, dated 1636, in which was granted certain real estate to his brother William, and money and personal property to his sons Amos, Richard, Joseph, John and Oliver. If, as is generally supposed, the brother William was the father of Mary, the three immigrant brothers, all of whose names were mentioned in the will, were cousins of Lady Gorges. A notation on the records made at the time the will was recorded states that the testator died 14 Jan, 1637, and the will, at the time made, states that the testator was then in his 70th year, fixing the date of his birth as approximately 1567.

Of the sons mentioned in the will we find three

- I Richard
- II Joseph
- III John

had migrated to America with the Gorges party, and this being confirmed by early records also confirms the theory advanced by Morse of "three immigrant brothers, of whom neither Stephen nor Abraham were numbered."

CHAPTER III.

THE HARDINGS AS PIONEERS

“He who feared neither bear, Indian nor devil, the all-daring, all-enduring trapper,” was the first western pioneer. It was his tale of the country beyond the mountains that first tempted the settler from the Atlantic coasts to cross the Alleghanies. They traveled in small bands, often but a few families, rifle and axe in hand, their slender outfit on pack horses. Sometimes they had a few cattle which they drove before them through the wilderness. The women shared the dangers and hardships of the journey and the labors of a first rude home building in a virgin land.—W. L. Taylor.

THE HISTORY of the Harding family in America is a history of the pioneers. From the time of the landing of Gov. Gorges' party on the bleak and almost unknown shores of the new world in 1623, when the first member of the family found a foot-hold on American soil, among the first settlers in any part of the country there has been a Harding. Richard Harding was one of the original settlers of Braintree, and his homestead rights therein dated from an original grant by Governor Gorges. When Roger Williams, driven from the Puritan settlement at Weymouth to find greater religious freedom, sought to establish a colony of his own, and after long wanderings picked upon a spot in Rhode Island, he found among his earliest colonists a son of the original Harding settler at Weymouth—Stephen Harding. And the sons and grandsons of Stephen Harding in later years made their way westward, and were always among the first settlers in the new colonies. First to Connecticut, then west to New York, on to Pennsylvania and later to Ohio, always contesting stubbornly the right of the settler against the Wilderness, the Prairie, the Indians, the wild beasts and all other obstacles to peaceful settlement.

CHAPTER IV.

JOHN HARDING

OF JOHN HARDING, the head of the line so far as can be traced by public records, little is known aside from the information given in the public records of Northampton, England, which contains a copy of his will, dated 1636, in which was granted certain real and personal property to his brother William and to his sons, Richard, Amos, John, Lemuel and Oliver. This will was filed March 3, 1637, and contains a notation that the testator died January 14, 1637. No children other than those mentioned are named, but it is possible, that as was often the case, other children might have been previously provided for. The will mentions that the testator was then in his 70th year, thus fixing the date of his birth as 1567. He was undoubtedly a husbandman and a direct descendant of Fitz Harding. It also appears that he was an elder brother of William Harding, the father of Mary, afterwards Lady Gorges. He was the father of

Richard
Joseph

John
Lemuel

Amos
Oliver

JOSEPH HARDING

JOSEPH HARDING of Braintree, as his name appears on the records, was probably a mariner, engaged in fishing, and after his marriage in 1624 to Martha Doane of Plymouth, he removed to Cape Cod. So far as the records reveal he was the father of but two children:

John, born about 1625.

Joseph, born in 1629.

Joseph Harding died in 1630 and left a widow, Martha, who died at Plymouth in 1633, leaving only personal property in that jurisdiction inventoried 8 Oct. of that year by James Hurse, Francis Cook and John Doane at £20:18:6, and a young son, Joseph, to the care of her brother, John Doane, to whom she un-

doubtedly previously committed the care of the elder son John.

Joseph Harding was a member of the Gov. Gorges party which was abandoned by him and he removed to Plymouth. His sons completed their minority at Duxbury and Eastham, returning then to Braintree to occupy their patrimonial estate, of which neither the ignoring of their claims by Gorges nor the grant of Braintree to Boston and the assignment of her lands to others had deprived them.

John, the elder brother, married _____ Hurst and had a daughter Sarah who married John Tower, and a son John who removed to Bridgewater about 1707.

Joseph, the younger son, married Bethiah Cook April 4, 1660. Over 700 direct descendants of the two brothers had been definitely traced as early as 1862, the greater portion of them from Joseph and Bethiah Harding.

JOHN HARDING II

IN THE NAMING of his children (seemingly the custom in those days) John Harding, the father of the three immigrant brothers, has told us that his father's name was Richard and his own name John. The same is true of Joseph whose eldest son was John and whose second son was Joseph.

In the case of the second-born, however, this was not possible, but naming his first son for his father, the same as his own, he bestowed upon the second son the name Abraham, probably for his wife's father, as was sometimes the custom.

John Harding evidently came with his brothers and the Gorges party to the New World, and, like the others, is presumed to have first settled at Weymouth, the ancient Wessagusset of the Gorges party. On the voyage he was accompanied by his wife and two sons, John, then about 8 years of age, and Abraham, about 5. Just how long this family tarried in the original colony is not known, but the first tax records of 1633 do not show his name. It is presumed, therefore, that previous to that time he and his family had removed to Gloucester to better facilitate his calling of "mariner, engaged in the fisheries," for on the records of that place we find that in 1635 he sold a piece of land to Frances

Jones for £4, and in 1636 he purchased a meadow of 9 acres from Abadiah and Susan Mason. In 1637 he was chosen Selectman, and here appears the last record we have of him at Gloucester, but in 1640 we find him again at Weymouth where he took the freedman's oath and drew land in Braintree. It is supposed that previous to his removal he had been granted a portion of the land assigned by Gorges, and after his return was given an additional grant which later was taken over by his son Abraham after his return to Braintree from Dedham.

John Harding continued to live in Weymouth until his death in 1650, and Oct. 8th of that year administration of his estate was granted to his sons John and Abraham who filed the will and later an inventory of property amounting to £146:15:8. The sons, by the will, were charged to "care for and comfort" the widow, Mary Harding, their mother, "so long as she was permitted to live," and to that end granting her the use of a portion of the town lots and all the personal property. At her death all property was to be equally divided between the two sons, who were made responsible for a "dowery of £25 to each of the daughters, Sarah and Mary, when they were wed." The widow died in 1656. John Harding was the father of

John, born in England, about 1615.

Abraham, born in England, about 1617.

Sarah, born 1630, m. Martyn Windsor.

Mary, born 1632, m. William Davis.

RICHARD HARDING

OF THE THREE immigrant brothers who came to America in 1623, with Governor Gorges, Richard was undoubtedly the eldest, and at the time of his arrival here must have been upwards of 40 years of age. The records of Braintree, where he lived and died, cover only a portion of his time, as the tax records do not commence until 1633 in which year he was taxed with a small amount of property. The next mention of his name of importance is May 10, 1640, when with others he was admitted to the freedman's oath, which implied church membership.

It is evident that his wife, who accompanied him to America,

died previous to 1630, for in that year he married Elizabeth Adams, by whom he had one child—a daughter born in 1632.

Richard lived on his own premises in the south part of Braintree near Weymouth Landing, the ancient Wessagussett where Governor Gorges planted his colony. This property was held by grant direct from Gorges and this original grant was respected by the proprietors after the division of Wessagussett and the grant of Braintree to Boston, as they assigned no lot to him nor is there any record to show his title. This is proven by the fact that his son John, at the time of his death was the owner of a lot in the first division of Weymouth lands, which allotment was undoubtedly made as early as the administration of Gorges and was settled by the father upon the son.

Richard was undoubtedly a mariner engaged in fishing, as his son John also was, for the transcript of his will filed in Boston shows that he possessed no horses, oxen or agricultural implements of any kind. It is evident that during his lifetime he had made provision for his sons, for his will, made in 1657, made provisions only for his widow, whom he named as sole executor, except a small legacy to his son John and a granddaughter, Mary. Previous to the death of Richard, the two sons had left their father's house, John removing to Gloucester, where he engaged in the fisheries, and Stephen, who had become a resident of Swanzev, and later of Providence, where he was early prominent in the councils of the church and civil authorities. Elizabeth Harding died in 1664. Richard Harding was the father of

John b. 1620, who took the freedman's oath May 13, 1641, and drew land in Weymouth in 1643; moved to Gloucester in 1652; in 1665 he returned to Weymouth, where he died in 1682. He had one daughter, Mary, who married John Whitmarsh of Weymouth.

STEPHEN (See succeeding chapter).

Lydia, b. 1632, married Martyn Saunders in 1651, and had one daughter, Elizabeth.

PART II.

Stephen Harding,
“The Blacksmith of Providence”
to
Amos Harding, “The Patriarch”

CHAPTER I.

STEPHEN HARDING

ABOUT 1647, Stephen Harding, son of Richard Harding of Braintree, at that time about 23 years of age, by trade a blacksmith, left his father's house in Weymouth and joined the party migrating to the settlements to the south established by Roger Williams a few years previous. The first settlement was made at Swanzev where Stephen H. was admitted to membership in the first Baptist church organization at that place, and where he married Bridget Estance, a daughter of Thomas Estance, one of the earliest settlers of Swanzev, and later of Providence. A few years later Stephen became a resident of Providence, R. I., where he came into possession of the town right of an original grantee, and in whose right and name he and his heirs drew many lots, and this led to the permanent settlement of many of his descendants at this place.

The first mention of Stephen Harding on the public records of Providence is March 28, 1664, when he had land laid out; On Oct. 27, 1665, he had a grant of 25 acres of the common land for 10s; August 7, 1669 he purchased of John and Mary Jones a "right of commoning" in Providence on the east side of the Nacunkeake; this deed was not recorded until 1710 when a final settlement of his estate was made by his son John, administrator; Nov. 16, 1674, then styled "Senior," he bought of Thos. Estance $\frac{1}{4}$ of a "right of common" in all the undivided lands of Providence; May 24, 1675, he purchased of Wm. Hopkins 70 acres in Providence "measured by an 18-ft. pole," and deeded this plat to his son John on Aug. 24, 1682; July 1, 1679, he and his son Stephen were taxed together 7s, 6d; prior to April 19, 1680, he gave to his son Stephen a house, orchard, lands and meadow near his brother Abraham's; on January 15, 1695, he signed a deed for 8 acres of land to his son Abraham—previously sold and paid for—specifying that he had not time to sign it in the lifetime of his son, but yet now does so "that it might hold good to the estate of Abraham." April 10, 1693, he and his wife Bridget, deeded to son Abraham all homestead estate not heretofore given, including house, etc., and at their death he to have entire possession and to "take a special care to see after the estate of his father that they

fall not into any strait or wants, but will lawfully and faithfully provide for themselves, as may be for their support and comfort in their old age, and as persons of their rank and quality, both in sickness and in health."

Stephen Harding died Feb. 20, 1698, and on April 12, of that year administration of his estate was granted to his son John of Newport, who presented an inventory of the estate valued at £44, 16s, 6d.

So far as can be learned from the public records, Stephen Harding was the father of

- 1—John, b. about 1652; inherited the property purchased of Wm. Hopkins by his father in 1675; took the freedman's oath in 1684; was appointed administrator of his father's estate in 1698; resided in Newport, R. I. Was the father of Israel, who married Sarah Medbury in 1696; and Richard who was born in 1678, d. May 15, 1748, m. Mary Thurber who died his widow Dec. 26, 1759; they had two sons—John, b. Oct. 28, 1708, and Richard b. Aug. 28, 1710, and four daughters.
- 2—Stephen, b. 1654, like his father was a blacksmith at Providence; married, Jan. 28, 1672, Mercy Winsor, a daughter of Joshua Winsor; made his will April 16, 1680, leaving all his property to his father except "so much as shall satisfy my sisters for the tending of me." Mercy Winsor Harding died early in 1680, and Stephen died May 31 of the same year; no children were born to this union.
- 3—Abraham, b. 1656, d. Nov. 23, 1694; m. Deborah.....
- 3a—Priscilla, who married Thomas Esten and had Mary and Mercy.
- 3b—Sarah, who married Henry Esten, brother of Thomas, and had Rebecca, Henry and Cornelius.
- 3c—Mary, who married Samuel Winsor, a son of Joshua Winsor, and had Rev. Samuel Winsor, Elder of the Baptist church in Providence.
- 3d—Another daughter who married Alex Balcolm.

3—ABRAHAM HARDING's entire life was spent in Providence, R. I. where he followed his trade of blacksmith, as his father had done before him. His death occurred Nov. 24, 1694,

and on Dec. 18th of that year Deborah Harding, his widow, presented an inventory of his estate and requested letters of administration, but this was not then granted; the following year she married Moses Bartlett and on March 3d, 1696, administration was given to her and "her now husband," to all her former husband's estate; had

4—John b. 1677, d. 1732.

5—Mercy, b. 1679, d. 1749; m. Samuel Winsor, Jan. 7, 1703.

6—Israel, of whom nothing further is known.

7—Stephen, b. 1681, d. May 31, 1750.

7a—Lydia, b. Aug. 23, 1690, m. John Whipple.

7b—Deborah, b. 1692, m. Joshua Winsor (b. May 25, 1682, d. Oct. 10, 1752), December 3, 1719; had Abraham, b. Oct. 4, 1720, d. 1798.

8—Thomas, m. Alice Smith, April 22, 1721.

7—STEPHEN HARDING (Capt.) was born at Providence, R. I., in 1681; Dec. 31, 1712, he sold his brother John 73 acres in Providence "west of the seven-mile limit" near Nipshachunk, laid out in the original right of Benj. Smith, "his now wife not to have any thirds in it." On the same date he bought three acres of meadow of Samuel and Thomas Whipple, and 50 acres in Providence from his brother John; he had laid out to him April 15, 1714, 6 acres of the common lands of Providence, and on June 22, 1715, then styled "yeoman," bought 140 acres in several parcels from Joseph Smith of Providence. At about this time he removed from Providence to Warwick. In his early life he was evidently a tanner and currier, but it is probable that before removing from Rhode Island he had built and sailed his own vessel. In middle life he appears to have been a man of considerable wealth, as soon after his removal to Warwick he purchased from Col. Livingston of New London, a son-in-law of Gov. John Winthrop, a highly improved farm of 400 acres on which was located a saw mill, which was a part of the original Mohegan tract, near Uncasville. Capt. Harding settled upon this farm in company with his brother Israel, and engaged in commerce, sailing from New London, but sustaining heavy losses at sea he again resumed his early occupation and ended his days upon the farm, which was afterwards included in Waterford, and which remained for many years the geographical center of the family; had

- 9—John, who removed to Redstone, Penn., and later to Kentucky. He dropped the final “g” from the name, and it was from him that many of the distinguished Hardins of Kentucky have descended.
- 10—Abraham, born June 14, 1720, died 1806.
- 11—Stephen, Capt., born 1723, d. 1789 (See Part IV).
- 12—Thomas, b. May 16, 1727, d. Feb. 20, 1804; married Mary Richards March 20, 1745; had Thomas, Mary, Jeremiah, James, Amy (Cobb), Jemimah (Richards), Daniel.
- 13—Israel Col., b. 1733, d. 1783; married 1759; Sarah Harris, (b. Dec. 18, 1739, d. 1839); had a daughter Sabra who married, Feb. 10, 1786, Charles DeWolf (b. 1765, d. 1833); Simon DeWolf (b. April 10, 1788, d. Sept. 11, 1849), married 1810, Clarissa Allen (b. May 2, 1793, d. Nov. 8, 1861); Capt. David DeWolf (b. April 1, 1822, d. Battle of Corinth, Oct. 3, 1862), married April 1, 1847; Matilda Allen Greenwood (b. Feb. 22, 1823, d. Feb. 9, 1905); Clarissa Allen DeWolf (b. March 23, 1848, d. Nov. 4, 1886) married, Sept. 19, 1867; Thomas Walter Cox (b. Aug. 2, 1847, d. Jan. 4, 1915); Edwin Eugene Cox (b. Mch. 23, 1868) married Oct. 16, 1895; Florence Edna Huntsinger (b. Aug. 20, 1872); Catherine Virginia Cox (b. Jan. 8, 1899) married Lawrence Campbell Merriam.

10—ABRAHAM HARDING, (son of Stephen 7) was born at Warwick, R. I., June 14, 1720, and with his father's family removed to Waterford, Conn., in 1732. In early life, probably about 1741, he married Anna Dolson, who died in the early part of 1802. In 1761 Abraham Harding and family, together with others left their Connecticut home and after a long journey, fraught with dangers and privations, arrived at a clearing in the wilderness in southwestern New York, at a spot afterwards known as Deer Park, later Port Jervis, in Orange county. Here Abraham Harding continued to make his home until 1802 when he went, shortly after the death of his wife, to Susquehanna county, Penn., to make his home with his grandson, Amos Harding, and there died in 1806.

The following bits of history relating to Abraham Harding

and family are here given for the first time:

“Record of Wills,” Port Jervis, N. Y., Minisink Historical Society: Abraham Harding was a witness to a will of his brother-in-law, Stephen Dolson.

“Ruttenberg’s History of Orange County”: Assessment of 1775: Abraham Harding of Wyanda, estimate of property fourteen shillings. Page 878: “Abraham Harding married a Dolson and was an early settler.” In 1789 Abraham Harding was a Highway Master; in 1790 Abraham Harding was a Constable.

“Eager’s History of Orange County: p. 413 “Abraham Harding married Anna Dolson and was an early settler of Grahamville.”

Orange County Clerk’s office: 1800—Deed: Daniel Albertson and Sarah, his wife, Abraham Harding and Anna, his wife, all of Minnisink, to Wm. Wells, property in town of Minnisink, Orange county, New York. 1801—Deed: Abraham Harding and Anna, his wife of Minnisink, to Wm. Wells, property in Minnisink.

War Department, Washington, D. C.—“Abraham Harding served as 2nd Lieutenant in Col. Wm. Allison’s regiment, New York militia, Revolutionary War. His name appears on a certificate of the Deputy Secretary of State of New York, dated March 4, 1836, which shows that he resided on the west side of Walkill in the county of Orange, and that he was commissioned by the Provincial Congress December 1, 1775.”

Comtroller’s Office, Albany, N. Y.—“The name of Abraham Harding (Lieut.) appears on an account of money raised by the exempts of Col. Allison’s Orange County Regiment, and delivered to him.” “The name of Capt. Abraham Harding appears on records on file in this office, but is found only upon a certificate stating that one Lebbus Lathrop served in the Continental Army.’

“Council of Appointments,” issued by State of New York: Page 80—Abraham Harding was appointed “Captain No. 5” in 1786. Page 283—Abraham Harding was promoted from Captain to Second Major, 1794—his residence then given as Minnisink, Orange Co. At the meeting of the Council in 1803, another was appointed in place of Abraham Harding, “moved away.”

An examination of the census of 1790 and 1800 shows but one Abraham Harding residing in Orange county, and the census of 1810 shows no one by that name residing in the county.

Abraham and Anna Harding were the parents of

14—Abraham, b. 1744, d. 1815:

15—Amos, b. 1746, d. 1808.

16—John, b. 1749, d. 1813.

17—Lemuel, b. 1751.

18—Oliver, b. 1753.

19—Rice, b. 1755, d. 1800.

14—ABRAHAM HARDING, (son of Abraham 10), was born at Watterford, Conn., April 14, 1744, and with his father's party migrated to Orange county, N. Y. in 1761. The following year he returned to his old Connecticut home and was there married to Hulda Tryon, July 9, 1762: the newly married couple returned at once to Orange county and occupied a farm near that of his father.

In 1774 Abraham and his family, together with three brothers and families, left New York and went to Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, where other members of the family and members of the Tripp and Slocum families, later to be interwoven with the Hardings by marriage, had preceded them, all settling in the Wyoming Valley. Here they remained for many years and several members of the different families were killed or captured by the Indians during the Indian uprising in the summer of 1778. Among those captured at that time was Frances Slocum who was abducted by the Delawares and remained a member of that tribe for sixty years. Her case is prominent in the annals of the Wyoming Valley and much has been written of her in current historical works. (See Chapter "Frances Slocum.")

Hulda Tryon, wife of Abraham Harding, was a daughter of Joseph Tryon who resided at New London and Waterford, Conn. Her mother was Bridget Curtis. She was born May 8, 1743, and died in Luzerne county, Penn., in 1812. Abraham Harding also died in Luzerne county, Oct. 22, 1815. They were the parents of

20—Amos, born March 10, 1764, died July 10, 1839. (See Part VI).

21—Joseph, born 1766, died 1778.

22—John, born 1768, died 1776.

Two daughters, one of whom died in childhood in Orange Co., N. Y.; the other married John Saxon in 1801, went to Ontario Co., N. Y. in 1804

PART III

Slocum, Tripp, Tryon, Madison, Van Kirk

Family Genealogies

John Harding's Descendants

Captain Stephen Harding

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GENEALOGIES

Of Families Related by Marriage to the Hardings.

SLOCUM

Giles (2) Anthony (1), d. 1683; m. Joan -----; was of Portsmouth, R. I. Giles and wife were members of "Friends' Society". Was father of Joanna, John, Giles, Ebenezer, Nathaniel, Peleg, Samuel, Mary and Eleizer.

Samuel (3) b. April 6, 1657, d. 1700; m. Patience Murley in 1677; was of Jamestown; father of Patience, Samuel, Mary, Giles and Joseph.

Giles (4), b. 1682, d. 1726; m. Mary Mott in 1704; was of Jamestown; was father of Joseph, Giles, Mary and Samuel.

Joseph (5), dates of birth and death not available; m. Patience Carr in 1724; had Joanna, Mary, Desire, Sarah, Jonathan, Abigail, Patience, Lucinda.

Sarah (6), b. Nov. 5, 1738, d. Oct. 18, 1808, Luzerne county, Pa., moved to Western New York in 1760 and to Luzerne county, Pa., in 1775; m. Wm. Tripp in 1756; had Joseph, Jonathan, William, Phoebe, Mary, Lucinda, James.

Phoebe Tripp married Amos Harding, Aug. 21, 1784.

TRIPP

John (1) of Portsmouth, R. I., b. 1610, d. 1678; m. Mary Paine who died Feb. 12, 1687; had

Peleg (2) of Dartmouth; b. 1642, d. Jan. 13, 1714; m. Anna Sisson in 1667; had

Job (3), b. 1673, m. Elizabeth Sweet; had

Isaac (4), b. 1700, d. 1778; m. Sarah Sweet and had a son William, who married Sarah Slocum (6) above; m. 2nd----- Spencer and had Sarah, b. 1731, Samuel b. April 19, 1735; Ruth b. Mch. 21, 1736, also Job who married Hannah Rice and had Lydia, b. Sept. 6, 1762, who married John Harding, and William, b. July 6, 1769, who married Grace Harding. Isaac Tripp married 3d, Sarah Dow and had Isaac b. July 17, 1743 and Henry Dow. Ruth Tripp married Jonathan Slocum, a brother of Sarah (6) and were the parents of Frances Slocum who was abducted by the Indians in 1788.

 TRYON

Joseph (4)—James (3)—Joseph (2)—Abel (1); b. New London, Conn., 1720, d. 1790; m. Bridget Curtis, (b. 1720); was a sea captain and owned vessels; was father of Joseph, b. 1741, Hulda, b. 1743, Timoth b. 1747.

Hulda (5), b. May 8, 1743, d. 1812; m. July 9, 1762, Abraham Harding, (14).

 MADISON

John (1) b. 1605, d. 1690; m. Abigail Foote in 1630; came to America from England in 1670, settling in Virginia; had two daughters and one son.

Thomas (2), b. 1632 in England, d. 1698; m. Rachel Colton in 1663; came to America in 1670; had one son.

Joseph (3), b. in Virginia 1672, d. 1763; m. Sarah Hall in 1693; had a son.

Joseph (4), b. 1701, d. 1773; m. Eliza Stone in 1720; had a son.

John (5) b. 1729, d. 1803; was a Baptist preacher; m. Jane Giddings in 1750; had

William (6), b. 1776, d. 1840; m. Mary Hooker in 1799; was Captain in war of 1812; had

Elizabeth, b. July 26, 1800; d. Feb. 6, 1866; married May 1, 1816, George Tryon Harding.

 VAN KIRK

Joseph (1) had seven sons in Revolutionary War; of these John, William and Henry settled in Washington county, Pa., between 1785-1793.

William (2) b. New Jersey 1758; d. Washington county, Pa., 1826; was a private in N. J. militia of Middlesex county in Revolutionary war; m. Deborah Watters and had 5 sons and 5 daughters.

Charity (3), b. Washington county, Pa., 1803, d. Blooming Grove, Ohio, 1878; m. Isaac Haines Dickerson, Oct. 5, 1826; Isaac H. Dickerson, b. 1802, New Jersey, d. 1867 Blooming Grove, Ohio, had one son and eight daughters.

Phoebe Dickerson, b. 1843, d. May 20, 1910; m. May 8, 1864, George Tryon Harding (2-34).

JOHN HARDING

16—John Harding, (son of Abraham 10), was born in Orange county, New York in 1749, died 1813; married Rhoda King (b. 1752, d. 1788); 2nd, Lydia Tripp; had

Mercy, married Jas. Elliott; 2nd, D. Slawson; had Lemuel, David, Fanny, Milton, Nancy.

Amos b. 1770, d. 1852; married Jemima Harding; 2nd, Barbara Wheat; had Martin Luther, Rhoda, Fanny, Martin Luther II, David Harvey, John Calvin, Burlinda, Sarah, Stephen, Daniel.

William, b. 1772, d. 1856; married Eunice Minor; had Job, Nathaniel, Charles, James, Frederick, John C., Abraham, William S., David Adney.

Prudence, b. 1775, d. 1842, married David Campbell; had Mercy M., Clara, Lydia, Stephen.

John, b. 1776, d. 1845; married Polly Skinner; had Samuel, Lebbus Lathrop, Clarissa, John C., Joseph, John L.

Charles, b. 1778, d. 1852; married Betsy Smith; had Eunice, Lueis, Olehia, James N., Amanda, Jarius, Lydia.

Abraham, b. 1779, d. 1856; married Deborah Neuman; had Lydia, Daniel, James C., Henry O., Abigail, Samantha, Harrison, Temperance.

Lydia, b. 1781, d. 1817; married Abraham Taylor; had Marilda, James, Harvey, Gabriel Reeves, Katurah, Juliana, Abraham, Lydia, John Newkirk, Rhoda Ann.

Eleazer, b. 1784, d. 1847; married Mary Dodge; 2nd Sarah Rapperty; had Lydia, Mercy, Mary, John M., Susannah, Thomas Alonzo, Louis Abadella, Nathaniel, Eliza Ann, Zadock N.

Reuben, b. 1786, d. 1869; married Elizabeth Jones; had James E., Lydia, Fannie J., Zavan K., William P., Ira, John, Benjamin.

Lemuel, b. 1788, d. 1861; married Polly Wheat; had Anna, John P., William Q., Amos, George S., Jerusha, Amanda, Martin L., Lemuel, Mary E., Henry L., Silas, Emily.

AMOS HARDING

Amos Harding (son of John Harding and Rhoda King) was born near Otisville, N. Y., Oct. 13, 1770, died July 7, 1852; mar-

ried, April 17, 1791, Jemima Harding (b. Oct. 11, 1772, d. Dec. 21, 1832) Had

- 1—Martin Luther, b. Feb. 12, 1792, d. Aug. 4, 1793.
- 2—Rhoda, b. April 30, 1795; m. Conklin Reeves; had one son, Harvey Reeves, and he had a daughter, Jane Reeves.
- 3—Fanny, b. Feb. 2, 1797; m. Arnold Seybolt; had Daniel, Mary Caroline, George, Abigail and Malinda Ann.
- 4—Martin Luther, b. June 13, 1800, d. in infancy.
- 5—David Harvey, b. April 19, 1802, d. Nov. 18, 1880.
- 6—John Calvin, b. Sept. 10, 1804, died Oct. 12, 1885; m. April 28, 1828, Polly Maria Corwin.
- 7—Burlinda, b. Dec. 11, 1806; m. Ezra Coleman; had Emeline, who m. John Mulock, and Sarah, who m. Isaac Derby.
- 8—Sarah, b. Jan. 17, 1809; m. after the death of Burlinda, Ezra Coleman; had Melinda, m. James Clinton, Amos and Horace Coleman. Melinda and James Clinton had one son, DeWitt Clinton.
- 9—Stephen, b. May 18, 1811, married Fanny Ann Racine; had Sarah Caroline and Gideon Coleman Harding.
- 10—Daniel, b. March 28, 1813, married Lucinda Beaker; 2nd Martha Corey.

DAVID HARVEY HARDING

- 5—David Harvey Harding was born at Otisville, N. Y., April 19, 1802, died at Mason City, Iowa, Nov. 18, 1880, married Jan. 5, 1825, Fanny Reeves; 2nd, about 1875, Fanny Mills Casey; had
- 11—Harriet Eliza, b. June 15, 1826, d. Dec. 18, 1923; m. March 28, 1867, William Penney.
- 12—Sarah Elizabeth, b. Feb. 23, 1828, married Ezra Penney, Jan. 27, 1855; one daughter, Helen Ada, b. Aug. 22, 1862, m. William J. Raymond Sept. 7, 1892; Sarah Penney married, 2nd, Dec. 18, 1878, Isaac Penney.
- 13—Luther Reeves, b. April 23, 1832, Married, May 11, 1858, Hannah Marie Mapes; he died June 25, 1910.
- 14—Phoebe Emeline, b. March 1, 1834, d. Oct. 27, 1899; m. Stewart Jones; 2nd, Oliver B. Gordon.
- 15—George Harrison, b. Jan. 1, 1836, d. Jan. 12, 1920; m. Jan. 8, 1868, Cynthia Brightman; had Fannie Bright-

- man, b. Oct. 22, 1869, d. Feb. 20, 1918, m. Oct. 10, 1900, Lee R. Bailey.
- 16—Frances Amelia, b. Nov. 18, 1837, d. Feb. 16, 1895.
- 17—Stephen Theodore, b. Aug. 18, 1839, d. March 26, 1919; m. March 16, 1881, Martha Jane Ingersoll; had Clarence Theodore, b. Aug. 9, 1883, m. Ethel Helen Foster; Homer Reeves, b. Nov. 22, 1888.
- 18—John Krizer, b. July 18, 1841, d. May 14, 1923.
- 19—Elisha Ozro, b. Oct. 6, 1844, m. Sept. 17, 1873, Angeline V. Rhodes.
- 6—JOHN CALVIN HARDING, b. Sept. 10, 1804, d. Oct. 12, 1885; married, April 28, 1828, Polly Maria Corwin; had
- 20—Cilinda Jane, b. June 8, 1831, d. July 21, 1907; m. June 6, 1868, Benton Jenkins.
- 21—Ira Lewis, b. July 25, 1833, d. Dec. 27, 1910; m. Feb. 5, 1862, Rebecca Jane Vail.
- 22—Jemima, b. July 11, 1836, m. May 17, 1860, George Ketcham; had Georgiana, b. April 24, 1863; Ida Marie, b. June 26, 1864; Melvin, b. Feb. 26, 1866, d. Dec. 13, 1902; m. Elsie Wenck, had Richard Ketcham.
- 23—Fanny Marie, b. June 1, 1840, d. Nov. 23, 1907; m. Horace Boyle; had Myra Etta.
- 13—LUTHER REEVES HARDING, b. April 23, 1832; d. June 25, 1910; married, May 11, 1858, Hannah Marie Mapes; had
- 24—Alva, b. Feb. 18, 1860, m. Janet Amelia Davis, Sept. 8, 1880; had Melinda Viola, b. July 11, 1881, m. Feb. 17, 1904, Hiram Shook; Howard Reeves, b. May 18, 1883, m. March 28, 1906, Elizabeth Kimball; Irwin Egbert, b. May 1, 1886, m. May 23, 1907, Olive K. Burlingham; Ida Marie, b. Nov. 19, 1890, m. Oct. 13, 1917, Chas. Nelson Burwell; Leon Hallock, b. Aug. 9, 1896, m. Jan. 15, 1920, Fern E. Mitchell.
- 25—Edgar, b. July 15, 1862, m. Oct. 29, 1887, Cora J. Herri-man; had Millie May, b. Oct. 17, 1888, m. June 21, 1910, Fred Willis Wesson; Justin Day, b. Nov. 23, 1890, m. Florence Heidenrich; Milton Max, b. Nov. 19, 1899.
- 26—Harvey Taylor, b. April 3, 1864, m. Feb. 16, 1904, Bessie Emma Day; had Helen Hannah, Ethel Louise, Charles Luther.

15—GEORGE HARRISON HARDING, married, 2nd, Anna O. Brightman, June 3, 1876; had

27—Edna June, b. June 30, 1877, m. Fred C. White, Feb. 27, 1918; Charles Brightman, b. March 14, 1881; Emeline Mildred, b. July 7, 1884, m. Albert LeRoy Bell, Sept. 8, 1908.

16—FRANCES AMELIA HARDING, married, Nov. 3, 1859, Alfred H. Hallock; had

28—Minnie Dunning, b. Oct. 3, 1862, m. Dec. 17, 1884, Frederick W. Hill; had Alpha Virginia, b. March 26, 1886.

29—Julia, b. March 27, 1864; died in infancy.

30—Fanny Harding, b. Aug. 9, 1866, m. Oct. 26, 1898, Alfred H. Hallock; had Frances Harding Arthur, b. March 20, 1901.

GIDEON COLEMAN HARDING, son of Stephen and Fanny Racine Harding, b. April 11, 1841; d. Sept. 23, 1913; m. Nov. 3, 1869, Lamira Seybolt; had

31—Flora, b. Jan. 10, 1874, m. Jan. 10, 1900, Judson K. Wiggins; had Charlotte May, b. May 23, 1901, m. June, 1919, Horace A. Ketcham; Evelyn, b. Dec. 5, 1908.

32—Charles Spencer, b. Jan. 20, 1877, m. Oct. 17, 1908, Sarah Jane Sly.

33—Nettie May, b. Dec. 15, 1881, m. June 14, 1904, B. Erwin Writer; had Winifred, b. Dec. 9, 1906; Alton, b. July 3, 1909; Coleman Emmett, b. June 6, 1912; Valeria, b. Feb. 17, 1917.

SARAH CAROLINE HARDING, daughter of Stephen and Fanny Racine Harding, b. May 8, 1844, d. Feb. 26, 1918; m. Oct. 31, 1865, Chas. Durland Johnson; had

34—William H., b. July 26, 1867.

35—Hattie, b. Oct. 5, 1868, d. Oct. 29, 1889.

36—Lewis D., b. Sept. 30, 1870, m. Elizabeth Mundy; had Frances Marie, b. Oct. 11, 1895.

37—Esther Jane, b. Dec. 25, 1873.

38—Charles F., b. May 3, 1874, d. April 19, 1879.

39—Fannie H., b. Feb. 26, 1880.

LYDIA H. HARDING

LYDIA H. HARDING, (daughter of John and Rhoda King Harding), born Nov. 18, 1781, d. Aug. 31, 1817; married, Nov. 8, 1798, Abraham Taylor, (b. July 11, 1752, d. July 7, 1832; had

40—Marilda, b. July 1, 1799, d. Aug. 14, 1837.

41—James Harvey, b. June 16, 1801, d. June 15, 1888.

42—Gabriel Reeves, b. Apr. 12, 1803, d. March 28, 1861.

43—Katurah, b. June 20, 1805, d. Feb. 2, 1878.

44—Juliana, b. July 18, 1807, d. March 12, 1841.

45—Abraham, b. Sept. 30, 1809.

46—Lydia, b. Nov. 10, 1811, d. Sept. 11, 1840.

47—John Newkirk, b. Nov. 27, 1814.

48—Rhoda Ann, b. May 29, 1817.

43—KATURAH TAYLOR, m. Silas Chapman, Dec. 4, 1823; (b. Sept. 27, 1802, d. Jan. 1, 1857); had

49—Juliette, b. Sept. 24, 1824, d. April 17, 1857; m. May 13, 1844, Wm. Newkirk.

50—Mary Elizabeth, b. Sept. 16, 1826, d. July 12, 1911; m. Feb. 23, 1850, James Green; 2nd, Dec. 26, 1876, Levi Van Etten.

51—Harriet, b. Aug. 28, 1828, d. March 10, 1851; m. Nov. 6, 1847, John Carpenter.

52—George, b. Aug. 26, 1830, d. Feb. 11, 1831.

53—Charles, b. Dec. 15, 1831, d. March 26, 1832.

54—Adaline, b. Feb. 18, 1833, d. Oct. 6, 1911; m. June 21, 1854, Harmanius Cuddleback.

55—Lydia Jane, b. July 24, 1835.

56—Marilda Ann, b. June 3, 1838, d. Feb. 17, 1897; m. June 12, 1836, Lewis Cuddleback.

57—James Harvey, b. March 7, 1841, d. March 13, 1885.

58—Sarah Catherine, b. April 1, 1844.

51—HARRIET CHAPMAN, married, Nov. 6, 1847, John Carpenter (b. Oct. 14, 1820, d. July 19, 1902); had

59—Eugene, b. March 5, 1849, d. Feb. 15, 1850.

60—Harriet, b. March 7, 1851.

58—SARAH CATHERINE CHAPMAN, married May 9, 1867, John Rummey; had

61—Etta, b. Feb. 9, 1869.

62—Gertrude, b. July 17, 1870.

63—Mary, b. Dec. 7, 1873, m. Dwight B. Smith, March 30, 1898; had Mildred, b. May 12, 1901.

64—David, b. Oct. 21, 1876, d. July 17, 1877.

65—Silas E., b. Jan. 26, 1879.

66—Harry C., b. June 30, 1880.

67—William, b. Feb. 10, 1883.

68—Lottie J., b. Feb. 26, 1889.

60—HARRIET CARPENTER, married, May 13, 1874, Cornelius Hoummel (b. Aug. 11, 1852); had

69—Lillian Chapman, b. Sept. 21, 1875.

70—Harold Russell, b. July 10, 1878.

71—Jane Cecilia, b. Oct. 14, 1880.

72—Levi Van Etten, b. June 13, 1883.

73—William W., b. Feb. 25, 1887.

74—Adaline Katurah, b. March 20, 1890.

69—LILLIAN CHAPMAN HOUMMEL, married May 23, 1901, Dr. Moses Ashby Stivers (b. Nov. 14, 1872).

CAPTAIN STEPHEN HARDING

STEPHEN HARDING (11) was born at Warwick, R. I., in 1723. In 1748 he married Amy Gardner, and the following year became a resident of that part of the town of New London, Conn., which is now Waterford. Later Stephen became a resident of Colchester, Conn., where all his children were born. He was a son of Capt. Stephen Harding,

Stephen went to the Wyoming Valley first in 1769, in company with John Jenkins, a brother-in-law, but did not make a permanent settlement there until 1774, when he brought his family from Connecticut and settled in Exeter, about two and a half miles above the head of the valley, on the west side of the river above the Falling Spring. When Exeter township was erected Stephen Harding and his son, Stephen, Jr., became proprietors of the same. The sons Stephen, Benjamin and Stukely settled about four miles farther up the river. They were all probably influenced to make this location from the supposition that they would not be annoyed by the contest then going on between the "Yankees" and the "Pennanites", and so it proved.

October 17, 1775, when the Twenty-fourth regiment Connecticut Militia, was organized, Stephen Harding, Sr. was commissioned Captain of the Seventh Exeter Company. Shortly after the Battle of Wyoming, Capt. Harding with his family returned to Connecticut, but came back to the Valley in 1784.

Capt. Harding's sons, Stephen, Thomas and Israel, enlisted Sept. 17, 1776, in the First Independent Company of Wyoming, all joining Capt. Durkee's regiment. Two cousins, Harry and Oliver, enlisted at the same time. Capt. Stephen Harding was the father of

- 1—Amy, who died unmarried, in Connecticut, 1762.
- 2—Stephen, b. 1749, d. Aug. 4, 1816.
- 3—Lydia, married Thomas Chapman.
- 4—Jemima, married Ebon Williams.
- 5—Esther, married Dr. Oliver Biglow.
- 6—Thomas, b. 1751, d. 1813.
- 7—Benjamin, b. 1753, killed by Indians, June 30, 1778.

8—Stukely, b. 1755, killed by Indians, June 30, 1778.

9—Israel, b. 1756, d. May 7, 1836.

10—Micajah, b. 1761, d. 1845.

11—Elisha, b. Aug. 8, 1763, d. Aug. 4, 1839.

12—John, b. 1765, d. 1826.

13—William, b. 1767, d. 1825.

2—STEPHEN HARDING, JR., was Captain of a company of Pennsylvania Volunteers. His was the first burial in the Harding cemetery at Exeter. Had

14—Prudence, who married Tephenia Townsend.

15—Amy, who married Andree Mantayne.

16—David, b. 1767, d. Ripley Co., Ind., 1837.

6—THOMAS HARDING, married, 1st, ----- Rogers; 2nd, Hannah Stark. Was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, was at the battle of Saratoga and witnessed the surrender of Burgoyne. Had Amasa, Stephen, Benjamin, Perry, Jesse, Hurlbut, and several daughters.

9—ISRAEL HARDING, married Lydia Reed. Was a soldier of the Revolution throughout the entire conflict. Had Benjamin, James, Stephen, Israel, Edward.

10—Micajah Harding was Captain of a company of the State Militia in 1805; served as Captain in war of 1812; died in LaGrange county, Ind. Had Micajah, Jesse, Daniel.

11—ELISHA HARDING married, 1785, Martha Ryder; had

31—Mary, married Thomas Mitchell.

32—Samuel, married Sally Bird.

33—Martha, married Elisha Newman.

34—Elisha, married Amy Jenkins, 2nd Nancy Jackson.

35—Gardner, married Ruth Jenkins.

36—Jesse, married Nancy Miller.

12—JOHN HARDING, married Affa (Baldwin) Jenkins; had

37—John, married M. Barnum, 2nd Mary Slocum.

38—Isaac, married Nancy Harding.

39—Hiram, married Hannah Harding.

40—Harry, married Sally Mantayne.

41—Affa, married Able Marcy.

42—Celinda, married Elisha Harris.

16—DAVID HARDING, married 1st, Abigail Umphraville; 2nd, Abigail (Brown) Hill. Was taken captive in Battle of Wyoming; removed to Ripley county, Ind., 1820; had

43—David, b. April 1, 1793, d. March 20, 1846.

44—Aurelia, married Nathan Wagner.

45—Stephen Selwyn, b. Feb. 24, 1808, d. 1900.

46—Myron H.

47—Lorenzo D., b. 1812, d. 1850.

Nancy Jane, Prudence, Abigail, Laura Ann, Mary Ann,

34—ELISHA HARDING, JR., married 1st, Amy Jenkins; 2nd, Nancy Jackson; had nine children by first wife, six children by second wife; had

48—Hugh; 49—Elizabeth; 50—Emma; 51—Lysander; 52—William; 53—Nancy; 54—Benjamin F. 55—Elisha Jenkins; 56—Jabez; 57—Harriet; 58—Nathan Jackson; 59—Willard; 60—Samuel; 61—Henry.

43—DAVID HARDING, married Nov. 15, 1812, Eunice Sumner; had Ransom M., Naomi, Sidney A., Selwyn, Orlin S., Ann Marie, Ruth Eliza.

45—STEPHEN SELWYN HARDING, married Alvina Sprout; was a Major General of U. S. Army; appointed governor of Utah territory by President Lincoln in 1864; was afterwards Chief Justice of Colorado; had Selwyn S., Perley S., Adelia, Gertrude, Attila L., Allicen, Mercador, Altus M., Anna S., Labertin.

46—MYRON H. HARDING, M. D., married Lucy Plummer; had Isadore H., Laura F., Douglas H., Lucy P., Myron H., David Arthur.

47—LORENZO D. HARDING, married Martha Jane Stillman; had Addison E., Lorenzo E., Alphonso P.

54—BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HARDING, b. Jan. 4, 1823, d. June 6, 1899; was U. S. District Attorney in Oregon in 1853, Territorial secretary in 1855, U. S. Senator from Oregon in 1862; married, Nov. 2, 1861, Eliza Cox (b. June 6, 1829, d. Aug. 18, 1867); m. 2nd, Sept. 13, 1868, Mrs. Sally M. Bush (d. July 15, 1873); had, by first wife, Frances M., Malcom J., Adelia, Ella, Daniel Waldo, Elizabeth, William.

55—ELISHA JENKINS HARDING, married Eleanor Purdy, 1857; had Frank, Larz, Jenkins, Charles, Elinor, Amy, Gertrude.

Captain Stephen and Amy (Gardner) Harding are buried beside their sons, Benjamin and Stukely, the first victims of the cruel tomahawk in that Indian march into the valley, and their remains lie in the Jenkins and Harding cemetery in the borough of West Pittson.

Captain Stephen Harding was among the foremost of the patriotic citizens of the Wyoming Valley and the ranking military officer of Jenkins' Fort. He went out to meet the British officers and treat for capitulation. He was one of the truest of patriots and few families felt more severely than his the hardships of the war for our Independence. He was among the early members of the Susquehanna company, came to the valley in 1769, settled at the head of the valley and there he died, October 11, 1787, aged 60 years. He had thirteen children, of whom four were daughters.

His sons, Benjamin and Stukely were killed the last day of June, 1778, when returning from their work up the river. John a boy of 13, had been one of the same party but made his escape. Elisha although young, rendered important assistance in the erection of the Fort, and was one of the Volunteer soldiers who went to the defense of the town of New London when that town was burned by Arnold in 1781.

Surely, the name of Captain Stephen Harding of the Seventh Exeter Company, Twenty-fourth Regiment, Connecticut Militia deserves prominent mention in the history of the Wyoming Valley, and certainly the Harding family paid its full share in service to the cause of the Colonists.

Amy Gardner, Stephen Harding's wife, was a true patriot, a woman of a beautiful, Christian character, and passed through the severe trials of those days with heroic fortitude.

The Exeter settlement is one of the oldest in Wyoming and has the distinction of having the earliest business enterprises, whose settlers, strange as it may seem, chose the hillsides and narrow lands beyond the narrow pass in the mountains, in preference to the broad plain below that settlers of a later period found so responsive to their efforts, first as farmers and later as town residents.

The Hardings owned a good portion of the lands in Exeter. On the hillsides there grew up mills, churches and homes. In 1773 a Baptist church was organized in Exeter, but at this writing little is left of the original except a fragrant memory—no resident members. Nearly all the pioneers, and especially the Hardings, were Baptists.

PART IV

Hardings in the Wyoming Valley

The Wyoming Massacre

The Story of Frances Slocum

HARDINGS IN THE WYOMING VALLEY

BETWEEN the years 1774 and 1777, the little settlement of the Hardings at Exeter, in the Wyoming Valley, Pennsylvania, enjoyed uninterrupted prosperity, with constant accessions to its population, and the settlers were at leisure to contemplate their success under the guidance of Him in whom they had so long trusted.

But now the storms of war, blood and carnage loomed up in their wildest forms. Their peaceful homes were threatened by a merciless foe. Jenkins' Fort had been built by the Jenkins and the Hardings, with the aid of other settlers, in the spring of 1777, on the bank of the river near where the upper bridge is now, then Exeter township, now West Pittson. The structure was a stockade built around and in connection with the dwelling house of John Jenkins, hence its name. In May, 1778, Captain Harding removed his family to Jenkins' Fort for safety, and he was invested with command of its garrison and its defenses. Those that went to the Fort were the Jenkins, the Hardings, Gardners, Hadsells, and others.

On the morning of the 30th of June, 1778, a company from the fort consisting of Benjamin Harding, Stukely Harding, John Harding, Minor Robins, James Hadsell and his sons, John and James (a boy about 11 years old), with his son-in-law, Ebenezer Reynolds and Daniel Carr, together with Daniel Wallen, David Harding, William Martin and a negro named Puocko, a servant of Martin's, went up the river about six miles into Exeter to their several labors, some of them taking arms, particularly Benjamin and Stukely Harding.

The Hadsells had corn on an island near the mouth of Sutton's Creek, since washed away by the river. Mr. Hadsell had a tannery on the mainland where he was at work that day. The Hardings were at work about a mile above. Some time in the afternoon the Indians came down upon them silently and ambushed all the paths for the purpose of capturing them all without giving alarm to any. One party concealed themselves in an old house by the road, another in a deep ravine where a small brook found its way to the river. There is where Benjamin and Stukely

Harding were killed. The brook ran across the road near the residence of Harry Harding (now deceased) and joined the river somewhere below.

The Harding company divided, Benjamin and Stukely Harding and John Gardner going down the road. The Hardings and Gardner had gotten somewhat in advance of the other company, and came in contact with the Indians who fired upon them and they returned the fire; quite a contest ensued. On hearing the firing the Indians watching the road left their place of concealment and ran off in that direction. The road party was so near that they saw the Indians as they ran away, fled to the woods and made their escape. The fate of the Hardings is a matter of history. That they fought bravely is attested by their enemies as well as by the condition of their bodies when found. John Gardner and David Harding were taken prisoners, but having no weapons, they took no part in the fight. David Harding escaped from the Indians the following day.

In the meantime a party of Indians had captured James Hadsell, Sr., his son-in-law, and the negro at the tannery. As those on the island came off in the canoe and were ascending the bank, a party of savages lying in wait fired upon them, killing James Hadsell, Jr., and wounding Reynolds who fled to the woods. John Hadsell, the boy, remained behind, fastening the canoe, and upon hearing the firing he plunged into a thicket of willows and driftwood nearby and lay concealed. The Indians, missing one of the number in the canoe, went to the river to search for him and one of them walked out on a log just over his head. John said the Indian was so near at one time he could have put out his hand and touched him. After night set in he made his way back to the Fort, arriving about midnight. He was the first to arrive and bring the news of the fate of his companions to their anxious, waiting friends.

The elder Hadsell, Gardner, Carr and the negro were taken to the Indian encampment up Sutton's Creek about two miles, to what is now known as the Bailey farm, where the Negro and Mr. Hadsell were put to death by the most insulting, lingering and excruciating manner of torture. John Harding, with the company which fled through the woods, after wandering all night, succeeded in reaching the Fort about daylight, and intelligence of the affair was at once communicated to all parts of the valley, and the ut-

most alarm prevailed. Col. Zebulon Butler of the Continental Army, then at home on leave, being solicited, assumed command of the settlers.

On the first of July, he, Col. Denison and Lieut. Col. George Dorrance, with all the forces at command, at that time, marched from Forty Fort to Exeter, a distance of eleven miles, with the design of punishing the guilty parties. The two Hardings were found where they had fallen. From appearances they must have fought and contended to the last, for their arms and faces were much cut and several spear holes were made through their bodies. They were scalped and otherwise mutilated. Two Indians who were watching near their dead bodies, expecting that friends might come and take them away and that they might obtain other victims, were shot, one where he sat, the other killed in the river.

The bodies of the Hardings were sent to Jenkins' Fort with the injunction to bury them at once; but the mother of the two boys declared that the bodies should be washed and prepared for a decent burial, which she did with her own hands. The next day, July 2nd, under the protection of a white flag they were buried in the Jenkins and Harding burying ground, a short distance from the Fort, where Elisha Harding, their brother, caused a stone to be erected to their memory, with the inscription, "Sweet be the sleep of those who prefer death to slavery."

On the afternoon or evening of the same day, the 2nd of July, Col. John Butler, who had assumed command of the Indians and Tories, sent a flag to Fort Jenkins demanding a surrender thereof; Capt. Harding and John Jenkins went out and entered into articles of capitulation with Butler, in the midst of the British and Indians. Capt. Harding was in deep distress over the fate of the sons he had just buried, and Butler said, by way of palliation, that they had not intended to kill his sons but that they were obliged to; that it was a pity to kill such brave young men.

The Fort was then taken possession of by a Capt. Caldwell, and the next morning, July 3d, they commenced demolishing the fort, the Indians conducting themselves as only Indians could. The prisoners were searched and all valuables taken from them. John Gardner, taken prisoner when the Hardings were killed, was, on the morning of the 4th, permitted to see his wife and children; the interview was extremely affecting as the last adieus were exchanged and they parted to meet no more. When his captors were

ready to go they put a rope around his neck and led him off, compelling him to carry a heavy pack of plunder. He held out until they arrived in the neighborhood of Geneva, N. Y., where, exhausted by his journey and crushed by the weight of his load, he fell to the ground. He was then handed over to the squaws who tortured him to death with fire. Daniel Carr, a fellow prisoner, was taken to Canada and the Indians kept him captive several years. John Hadsell, the boy who escaped by hiding in the willows, emigrated from Exeter to Western New York about 1805 and settled in Ontario county where he passed away at an advanced age.

AMY HARDING DEWITT, (1910).

THE WYOMING MASSACRE

IT WAS HIGHLY characteristic of the hardy frontiersmen at Wyoming, that though they were fully aware that they were to be attacked by superior numbers and had only vague hope of the arrival of reinforcements, the idea of flight seems never to have occurred to them. Their forces numbered, all told, only about 300 men, and nearly all of these, according to the inscription on the monument erected in their honor, were "the undisciplined, the youthful, the aged." There were 230 "enrolled men"—many in fact, minors—and the remaining seventy were all either boys or old men. They embraced six companies, and were mustered at Forty Fort, on the side of the river, where the families of the settlers on the east side had taken refuge. Such was the situation on that memorable day, the 3d of July, 1778, when the British and Indians, having advanced deliberately down the valley, feeling sure that their victims could not escape them, were finally met in battle. They had destroyed everything in their way. Jenkins' Fort had capitulated, a score of murders had been perpetrated, and Wintermoot's (which, as was afterwards learned, had been built to aid the incursions of the Tories) had at once opened its gates to the invading host.

The settlers, with a desperation of courage rarely equalled in the history of war, resolved to put suspense at an end, actually marched forth to meet the enemy that outnumbered them four to one. Some few had counselled delay, and Colonel Zebulon Butler was of that minority, but he acquiesced in the verdict of the majority and led them out, the little force of 300, in the middle of the afternoon, with drums beating, colors flying, and in true military array.

There were six companies, and the officers of the little force, under Butler, were Colonels John Durkee and Nathan Dennison, Lieutenant-Colonel George Dorrance, Major John Garrett, Captains Samuel Ransom, Dethic Hewitt, Asaph Whittlesey, Lazarus Stewart, James Bidlack, Rezin Geer, Aholiab Buck, ——— Spalding, William McKarrican and Robert Durkee. They marched up the valley, with the river on their right. On coming up with the enemy the column deployed to the left and formed in line of bat-

tle, with its right resting on the high bank of the river and its left extending across the plain to a swamp.

The enemy then advancing, the colonel gave the order to fire, and a volley rang out along the entire line with precision and some effect. The British flinched and actually fell back before the Yankee spartans, but it was only for a moment, and they pressed forward again. Then with quick alternations of the orders "Advance!"—"Fire!" the brave Butler performed the almost impossible feat of moving his thin line slowly forward against the overwhelming force that faced it. But this well-nigh incredible resoluteness was all in vain, for even as the line advanced the Indians slipped singly and by dozens into the brush of the swamp and flanked its left.

On the side of the invaders "Indian" Butler, his subordinate officers, the Seneca chiefs, and even Queen Esther in person directed the fight in different quarters. Butler, divested of his usual Indian finery, and with a flame-colored handkerchief bound round his head, darted among his men, shrieking in his high voice orders to rangers and redmen alike, and wildly evinced his delight as he saw the certainty of success, while his round face, red with his frantic excitement and intense activity, shone with a devilish triumph. The Wyoming men's left became confused, though the old men and boys did not retreat, and the Indians, seizing the opportunity, rushed forward with their frightful whoops and tomahawked right and left those still left standing. Many had already fallen under the murderous fire of four times their number. Every captain commanding a company was dead. The little band melted like wax before a fire. The Indians pressed the survivors toward the river, along the bank of which wives and mothers of the brave fighters had crowded in agonized watchfulness. Some swam over and escaped. Others were pursued and tomahawked in the water or shot from the shore. A few, promised quarter, returned, only to be treacherously struck down as they climbed the bank. Several found concealment on Monocacy Island, and others sought it only to be discovered and cut to pieces in their hiding-places, or dragged forth to be tortured at the leisure of their captors. It was there that one Tory killed his own brother, and that several other almost unbelievable horrors attested the atrocious fury of the assailants of these poor patriot settlers.

Massacre began when battle left off. One hundred and sixty men had been killed, and 140 had escaped — some only to be sub-

sequently captured. Crack marksmen among the Indians had brought down officers and conspicuous fighters by breaking their thigh-bones or otherwise incapacitating them, so that they could by no possibility escape, and thus were reserved for tortures a hundred times worse than death. Captain Bidlack was thrown alive on blazing logs, pinned down with pitchforks that happened to be at hand, and so held in spite of his powerful paroxysms until death relieved him. William Mason, a boy captain of a boy company, was similarly slain.

A debauch of blood followed for the especial delectation of Queen Esther. That seemingly insane savage ordered a score of the prisoners brought before her for torture, and her followers, springing to obey, quickly assembled them around a great boulder, known to this day as "the bloody rock." They were bound and compelled to kneel about the rock, and then this fanatic fury, who had once graced drawingrooms and been the admiration of gentle dames, seized a heavy tomahawk; and, raising a wild song, swept swiftly around the circle and dashed out the brains of sixteen victims, while the warriors, crowded close about the scene of butchery, leaping and yelling, expressed their fierce joy. Four escaped from sacrifice at the hands of the savage queen, but fell not far away for they were pursued by a hundred fleet-footed Iroquois. After all was over, there were discovered near bloody rock nine more corpse, all mutilated and scalped.

When night came on, the still insatiate savages built fires, and, stripping the remaining prisoners naked, drove them back and forth through the flames, finally thrusting them on the embers with their spears, when they fell from exhaustion, until all were despatched.

Altogether, in the battle and after, nearly 300 men were killed. Of the wretched people remaining, there were made that day in the valley 150 widows and nearly 600 orphans.

But a flight had already been begun while the massacre was in progress; and on the next day — after the arrival of ineffectually small reinforcements, and the surrender of detachments of militia at Pittston and Forty Fort, and when the entire valley had been given over to the pillage of the Indians (whom Butler afterward said he could not restrain) — all the survivors of the tragedy followed in the footsteps of those who had fled at first.

The Indians, dividing into small bands, passed up and down the valley, burning every building, and slaughtering every man,

woman and child they found — except some children whom they carried into captivity. Finally they rendezvoused and withdrew to the northward in a swarming, savagely triumphant body, the squaws bringing up the rear on stolen horses, their bridle reins hanging heavy with strings of sodden scalps. As often the ludicrous treads hard on the heels of tragedy, so here with garish ghastliness these furies appeared fantastically garbed in the rainment of the slain settlers' wives and daughters — which they had abandoned in taking flight — while household spoils, pans, pots, kettles, ladles, and the like, clattered on the flanks of their horses and added to the discordant din amid which the wild horde departed.

Desolation reigned supreme throughout the valley. In all directions there were only the charred ruins of cabins and the unburied dead.

Scribner's Magazine.

FRANCES SLOCUM

NO STRANGER story than that of Frances Slocum, has ever been told since the Pilgrim Fathers landed at Plymouth.

Born of white parents, she was stolen while a little girl by the Indians. She was reared in an Indian wigwam, married an Indian chief, and was given up as dead by the surviving members of her family. Years afterwards her presence in an Indian village was accidentally discovered by a traveler, and in a most curious way the news finally reached her brothers and sisters. She, however, resisted all their efforts to persuade her to return to civilization, and died as she had lived, an Indian in everything but birth. Among the savages and the early settlers of the West she was known as the "White Rose of the Miamis," and as "The Lost Child of Wyoming."

Frances Slocum was the daughter of Jonathan and Ruth Slocum, Quakers, who in 1774 moved from Connecticut to Wilkesbarre, Pa., then a mere hamlet in the wilderness.

They were constantly exposed to the attacks of the Indians, but it was not until November, 1778, that three Delaware Indians, during the absence of Mr. Slocum, stole up to the dwelling and murdered two of the children and the son of a neighbor, who were at work outside.

Frances and her mother fled into the house and hid, but Frances was found in a closet and was carried away by one of the Delawares, while the mother followed the red men and implored them to restore her daughter. Mr. Slocum, on his return home, undertook to follow the trail of the Indians, but was obliged in the dense forest to abandon the pursuit. A month later the Slocum household was again assailed by the savages, who killed Mr. Slocum.

The Hon. Charles Miner, in his "History of Wyoming," after narrating the particulars of her abduction, wrote as follows: "The cup of vengeance was not yet full. December 16, (1778), Mr. Slocum and Isaac Tripp, Esq., his father-in-law, an aged man, with William Slocum, a youth of nineteen or twenty, were feeding cattle from a stock in the meadow, in sight of the fort, when they were fired upon by Indians. Mr. Slocum was shot dead; Mr.

Tripp wounded, speared and tomahawked; both were scalped. William, wounded by a spent ball in the heel, escaped and gave the alarm, but the alert and wiley foe had retreated to his hiding place in the mountain. This deed, bold as it was cruel, was perpetrated within the town plat in the center of which the fortress was located. Thus, in a little more than a month, Mrs. Slocum had lost a beloved child carried into captivity; the doorway had been drenched in blood by the murder of an inmate of the family; two others of the household had been taken away prisoners; and now her husband and father were both stricken down to the grave, murdered and mangled by the merciless Indians. Verily, the annals of Indian atrocities written in blood, record few instances of disolation and woe to equal this." * * *

Repeated attempts were made to recover the lost child by Mrs. Slocum and her sons. They obtained clues to her occasionally through the reports of government agents, but when they visited the localities where she was said to be held she had disappeared, and the Indians themselves seemed to have entered into a conspiracy to prevent her return, for they refused to divulge the slightest information when questioned concerning her.

Long before the opening of the nineteenth century Frances had been carried West, as the Indians were forced to retire before the approaching civilization, and the discovery of her abiding place was purely accidental.

Colonel George W. Ewing, an Indian trader, whose home was at Logansport, Ind., chanced one night in 1835 to be overtaken by darkness in the vicinity of the Osage camp, known as Deaf Man's village, in the western part of Wabash county. He applied at the home of the chief for lodging, and was assigned the corner of the large room in the cabin occupied in common by the chief, his squaw, and the two daughters. Ewing could not sleep, and as he watched the movements of the squaw attending to the household duties he noticed that her demeanor differed somewhat from that of the Indians, and also observed, when she raised her arms and the sleeves fell away, that the skin was white.

Astonished at this, he questioned her in the Indian tongue, and after some hesitation she admitted that she was not of Indian blood and spoke of her abduction and her journey from Pennsylvania west. Colonel Ewing returned home and later made another trip to Deaf Man's village, where he was again entertained by Frances, who went further into the details of her romantic life.

Colonel Ewing, with scarcely any hope of finding her relatives, wrote a letter to the postmistress of Wilkesbarre, who was also the editress of a local paper, but she paid no attention to the story of Frances Slocum or the inquiry concerning her relatives, and threw the letter aside. Two years afterwards it was found by the editor of the paper, John F. Forney, afterwards of the Philadelphia Press, who printed the matter, and, a copy of the paper falling into the hands of friends of the Slocums, her brothers and sisters set out on a pilgrimage to Logansport.

They were met by Colonel Ewing, who accompanied them to Deaf Man's village, where an affecting interview between them and the lost sister took place. She was stolid and indifferent and regarded the visitors with suspicion. They questioned her closely and she gave them the history of her strange career. The brothers and sisters asked her to go with them to Peru, but evidently fearful of designs upon her, she refused. They went away and returned a day or so afterwards and pressed her to give up her Indian life and go back to Pennsylvania, but she firmly declined to do so. She said she was happy with her family and in the bosom of her tribe; that she was growing old and a change of conditions would shorten her days, and she desired, when she died, pointing to the cemetery where her body now lies, to rest with her husband and children in that spot. Sorrowing, the relatives bade her adieu and returned to Pennsylvania. One or two visits were made her afterwards, but she was not to be moved from her determination, and she died in the desolate Indian village in 1847 and was interred where she had directed her remains to be buried.

Frances had two daughters — Kickesequa, who married Peter Bondy, a Miami, and Osawshequah, who married a half-breed, John Broulliette. Both daughters are dead, but their children have often heard from Frances' lips the story of her abduction. This is the story as she told it:

“The Delaware Indians, after taking me from the house, carried me over the mountains a long way and hid me in a cave. They had blankets and a bed of leaves, and made me comfortable for the night. We left early the next morning, the Indians carrying me in their arms. They gave me plenty to eat, and as I felt better I stopped crying. We finally reached an Indian village, where we stayed some time, and the chief, Tack-Horse, placed me on a horse and we traveled a long ways. They dressed me up in

Indian garments and covered me with bright beads. We went to Sandusky and Niagara and spent two years, and then went to Detroit. I was then about 13 years old. I was taught never to trust the white men and to avoid them at all times. When I saw a white man I always ran away out of sight. I became a good markswoman with a bow and arrow and engaged in all Indian sports. After three years at Detroit we went to Fort Wayne and staid there until after General Harmer's defeat by the Indians, at which time all the women and children were run off to the north. I lived with the Delawares and married Little Turtle, a chief. He was cruel, and I left him and married Chepokenah, "Deaf Man," the Osage chief. I remember the defeat of the Indians by General Anthony Wayne. After peace we returned to Fort Wayne, and then, after the battle of Tippecanoe, we came here to the Mississinewa."

When the government order was made for the removal of the Miamis west of the Mississippi a special act of congress was passed excepting Frances Slocum and her family. She, in her last sickness, refused all medical aid. Her death, March 9, 1847, was due to pneumonia. Subsequently her relatives held funeral services in Sandusky, one of her brothers, a minister, preaching the funeral sermon.

Her grave is on a high knoll overlooking the valley of the Mississinewa river in Wabash county. The grave, at her request, was dug shallow, the foster mother of Frances having advised her that if the body was not buried deep it would be easy to throw off the earth in the event of burial alive.

The monument, dedicated May 17, 1900, at Wabash, Ind., is a plain white bronze shaft, nine feet high, appropriately inscribed, and was unveiled by two granddaughters of the "White Rose."

PART V

The Hardings at Clifford,
Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania

SOME PIONEERS OF CLIFFORD

(Extract from a paper read at the Home Coming Celebration at Clifford, Penn., August, 1923, by Clara Gardner Miller.)

MONTROSE CHAPTER, Daughters of the American Revolution, will unveil in a few weeks, with appropriate ceremonies, a large memorial bronze tablet, which will be placed in the lower corridor of the Susquehanna County Court House at Montrose. Upon this tablet will be engraved the names of 185 men who served in the Continental Army during the War of the Revolution, and who afterwards lived and died in Susquehanna county.

At the time of the Revolution there were no settlements and no white men in all this country which is now included in this county, but within, approximately, a quarter of a century after the close of the war all of these 185 Revolutionary heroes had made their homes here, and all that is mortal of them now lies in Susquehanna county soil. 163 of their number were privates and 22 were officers the highest in rank being Major Daniel Buck, of Great Bend, Major Putnam Catlin of Silver Lake, and Major Abraham Harding of Clifford.

We people of Clifford are especially interested in Major Harding, first, because he was the ancestor of President Harding, and second, because he died in this village and is buried within sight of this place where we are assembled tonight.

Major Harding was probably of the fourth generation of the name in his line in America. The family is of English extraction, the name being traced in English records as early as 1280.

The first of President Harding's family in America of whom we have authentic record, was Stephen, who was born in 1624, probably in England. We first hear of Stephen Harding in Braintree, later in Swanzey, Mass., which is just across the line from Providence, R. I. There he married Bridget Estance, a Welsh girl, and he and his wife were members of the Swanzey Baptist church, which was the first church of that denomination in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and the second on American soil. From that day to the present all along down the line, the Hardings have been Baptists. Stephen Harding died in Providence,

Major Abraham Harding, a great grandson of Stephen, was

born in Warwick, R. I., in 1720. He moved to Waterford, Conn., in 1732, and to Orange county, N. Y. in 1761, where he settled near Port Jervis. It is from this latter place that he enlisted in the Continental Army, being commissioned a 2nd Lieut. Dec. 1, 1775. He was then 55 years of age, and he served the entire eight years of the war, evidently with distinction, as his promotion to the rank of Capt., and later as Major of his Regiment, would indicate. After the close of the war he came to Wyoming Valley where three of his sons had settled in 1774. There were several other families of Hardings, all related, in the Valley, and all had passed through the terrors of the massacre of 1778.

Capt. Stephen Harding, a brother of Maj. Abraham, was commander of one of the Wyoming Forts during the battle and massacre, and he was the father of Benjamin and Stukley who were so cruelly murdered by the Indians three days before the battle, and whose names are foremost in our thoughts when the horrors of that dreadful massacre are brought to mind. "Remember the Fate of the Hardings" was the rallying cry of the Patriots as they went into battle on that memorable 3d of July. Miner, the historian of Wyoming, says: "There was not a family in the country more ardently devoted to the cause of freedom than the Hardings."

Amos, son of Abraham Harding, Jr., and grandson of Major Abraham Harding, was a boy of fifteen at the time of the massacre, and was undoubtedly in Jenkins' Fort, which stood where West Pittson now is, when it was delivered up to the Tories and Indians. All the Hardings lived in the upper end of the Valley and took refuge in Jenkins' Fort. The inhabitants of Wyoming who survived the massacre, were driven out of the Valley, but nearly all of them returned eventually. So we find it recorded that Amos Harding and Phoebe Tripp were married in Wyoming in the year 1784. They continued to live there until the fall of 1800 when they, with their children, came to Clifford, which was then a part of Nicholson Township, Luzerne County. They were the second family to settle in this Valley, Adam Miller having come here the spring before and built his log house on the western side of the creek between the present residence of Mr. Eugene Kennedy and the Baptist parsonage, on what had long been known as the Callender farm. Mr. Harding bought land on the eastern side of the creek, and his log house stood where now is Mrs. Andrew

Chamberlain's garden, nearly in the rear of her residence.

Soon after their arrival here, probably within the next year, Hulda, the little daughter of Amos Harding, was accidentally drowned in the spring on what is known to the present generation as the William Lott property, at the foot of the hill back of the school house. This was the first death in Clifford and it is told that little Huldah's father conducted the funeral service, reading the Scripture and praying. It must be remembered that this Valley and the country adjacent, was a wilderness, and no minister or missionary had yet come into it. Huldah Harding was buried within thirty rods of this church on top of the hill above us, but the exact spot of her grave cannot now be determined. Thus was started on the land of Amos Harding, Clifford's first cemetery.

The next burial of which we have any record is that of Major Abraham Harding, who, in 1806, was laid to rest beside his little great grand daughter. He was 86 years old when he died. Whether he had come here to reside with his grandson Amos, or was only a visitor in his home, we know not, but in either case it is a surprising thing that a man past eighty years of age should leave, even temporarily, the comfortable home of the Hardings in Wyoming, and come to this wild country. He must have ridden horseback or walked the entire distance, as there was not a road between here and the Susquehanna river that a wheeled vehicle could travel. Marked trees showed the direction of bridle and footpaths, and the whole region was infested with wild animals, no man daring to go any distance from his house, or to work in his fields, without the protection of his gun. But Major Harding was typical of the rugged age in which he lived, and his was an iron constitution as his whole pioneer and military record shows. That he died here we know, not only through tradition, but by the testimony of his living descendants. I have in my possession a letter from Miss Abigail Harding, sister of President Harding, stating positively the fact that her ancestor, Abraham Harding, died at Clifford at the home of his grandson, Amos.

There was a dozen or more burials in the little cemetery on the hill above us, the last being in 1814. Sometime between that date and the year 1816, another cemetery was laid out at the other end of the valley, and some of the bodies from the first cemetery

were removed to the other resting place of the dead. Unfortunately no record of the removals is now in existence. No stone marks any of these first graves in the oldest of what we now call the old cemetery, and the little burial plot on the top of this hill has been plowed over for nearly a hundred years. So, whether Major Harding's ashes lie on this hill or down yonder in the valley, will probably never be known.

In 1812 Amos Harding moved across the creek into the Adam Miller house, he having bought all of Mr. Miller's land in the valley. His children grew up, married and settled around him. He and his three sons, Mordecai, Salmon and George Tryon, owned all the land from hillside to hillside in this eastern end of the valley. How far up the hill facing this church, and how far northwest their possessions extended can be determined only by a critical search of the land records. Certain it is, they owned much more land than is now covered by the village.

On October 20, 1817, the first Baptist church of Clifford was organized. I find in the ancient book of records kept from the day of its organization, the following item: "Oct. 20, 1817, at a meeting of Delegates from the Churches in the Abington Baptist Association, convened at the school house by Brother Salmon Harding's in Clifford, agreeable to the request of the Brethren, there to constitute them into a Church if they think it expedient"—then follows the names of the delegates and the record of the meeting in detail. Amos Harding, his wife, his three sons and their wives were all members of this church at its organization or within a few weeks after.

The old record says the church was organized at a meeting held in the school house. This was the first school house erected in Clifford, and it stood on the site, or very near, the present school house. The record says that this school house was "by" the house of Salmon Harding. That this son of Amos Harding owned the land about this present church building and the school building, we know further by the fact that in 1820 he built a large barn just south of the present residence of Mr. Hiram Rivenburg. In that barn, there being no meeting house here, the Abington Baptist Association held its sessions when it met with the Clifford church in 1820, and tradition says the delegates were provided with dinner at the home of Amos Harding, across the creek

In the older days the brethren of the church kept a close watch over each other's conduct, and the slightest departure from whatever was considered proper decorum was promptly reported at the covenant meetings, the minutes of which are filled with the names of committee appointed to "labor," as they expressed it, with this or that brother or sister whose name had been reported to the meeting. The offense may have been no more serious than absence from a church service without apparent reason. So we find that Salmon Harding, notwithstanding his prominence in the church, was at one time reported to the meeting. This was in August, 1818, when at a Church meeting a committee, consisting of Brothers Tripp, John Finn and Charles Miller, was appointed to enquire into the reports concerning Brother Salmon Harding. That there was a happy termination to this episode the following record from the church book shows. "Church meeting, Sept. 18, 1818. Meeting opened by prayer by Brother John Finn, and Brother John Finn reports that Salmon Harding gives satisfaction to the church. Concluded by prayer by Brother John Finn. (Signed) John Finn, Clerk." This appears to have been quite a one-man meeting. Farther on in the book we find that Brother John Finn, who had been so prominent in the affair of Brother Harding, was himself censured for speaking unkindly in public about certain of his church brothers.

In 1822 or '23, historians seem uncertain as to the exact date, Amos Harding and his sons sold their land in Clifford, and with their families moved to Richland County, Ohio. There Amos died in 1839. Previous to their removal George Tryon Harding, son of Amos, was married to Elizabeth Madison. Their son Charles Alexander, who was President Harding's grandfather, was born April 8, 1820, while the family still resided at Clifford, and at least two years before they left for their western home. Dr. George Tyron Harding, now living at Marion, Ohio, father of President Harding, is a son of Charles Alexander and Ann (Crawford) Harding.

Any community should be proud to number among its pioneers, men of such worthy character as Amos Harding and his sons; and Clifford is honored above all the other townships of our county both in being the birth-place of the grandfather of President Warren G. Harding, and in its possession of the sacred remains of his Revolutionary ancestor, Major Abraham Harding.

NOT FULLY TRACED

The following genealogies and family records, some of them closely and others more remotely connected with the family line of Stephen Harding, are given here with the hope that some of the readers may be able to furnish further information concerning the family records so that it may be incorporated in future supplemental issues.

During the years the compiler has been engaged in gathering the information herein presented, hundreds of family records have been furnished, copied and carefully indexed, which he has been unable to use in the present work either because of their remote connection to the direct line or the incompleteness of the record. These records will be carefully preserved and are tendered for the use of any one who may be interested.

The compiler desires to be of assistance, so far as he may be able, to all members of the Harding family in the tracing of their descent or in the completion of their family records, and to that end invites the correspondence of all who are interested in the matter or desire assistance. He will also be pleased to receive copies of family records which have not been included in this work in continuance of any part of the book. With these records it is hoped that future supplemental issues will keep the family records correct and complete.

All correspondence may be addressed to

W. J. HARDING,
Keystone, Iowa.

WILLIAM HARDING

William Harding, died in 1849; he lived at "Prospect Place," Dursley, Gloucestershire, England; bore title of "Gentleman;" married, 1st, Mary Jackson, who died in 1827; 2nd, Elizabeth Richards (b. 1823, d. 1900.) Father of

- 1—Samuel
- 2—Daniel
- 3—William
- 4—Mark
- 5—Sarah
- 6—John
- 7—James
- 8—Caleb

-
- 3—William Harding, b. March 22, 1803, d. May 31, 1867; m. Charlotte Cole (b. Aug. 4, 1800, d. Jan. 22, 1874), at Wooten-Under-Edge, Gloucestershire; lived there until 1839 when the family came to America; lived at Stockport, Hudson and Williamstown, N. Y. Had
 - 9—John Cole, b. 1825, d. 1896; m. Mary Howarth; had William Henry, Charlotte Elizabeth, Clara Evelyn, Elizabeth Ann, Mary Ella, Charlotte Ida, George William, Lillian Eva and Lewen.
 - 10—William, b. 1826, d. 1854; m. Eliza Davis; had Hulda, Lillian and Brooks.
 - 11—Rowland, b. 1828; m. Mary Pennicook; had James George, Margaret Lillian, Charlotte Lizzie, Selden Lewis, Rowland Fenton.
 - 12—Lewen, b. 1829, d. 1853.
 - 13—George Cole, b. 1831; m. Mary Rooney; had Clara I., M. Alta, Wright C. and Anna V.
 - 14—Mary Jackson, b. 1834, d. 1916; m. James Gamage; had William John, Mary Charlotte, Elizabeth Ellen, Carrie Case, James Henry, George Rowland, Thomas Harding, Lewen Samuel, Manley Ruland.
 - 15—Thomas Evans, b. 1835, d. 1867.
 - 16—Samuel Cole, b. 1839, d. 1863; m. Mary Jane Gibbs; had Lewen Henry.

MASON HARDING

- Mason Harding (ancestors not definitely traced), married Margaret Sheldon; had
- 1—Mason, m. Martha Bullock; had John, Mary (Welch), Joseph, Martha (York), William and Nancy (Newberry).
 - 2—Adah, m. Herman Hartley; had John, Sylvester, Mary Jane (Highnote), Margaret, Nancy and James; Mary Jane Highnote had Lucy, who m. Andrew Marlin.
 - 3—Mary, m. Alexander Watt; had Minerva (Webster), John, George, Mahala, Thomas, William, Amanda and Perlinda.
 - 4—Jane, m. ----- Thornton.
 - 5—Sarah, m. George Lyons; had William, who m. Winnie Smith, and Mary Jane, who m. James Crabb and had Armanella and George.
 - 6—Nancy, m. Edward Crabb. 7—Perline, m. Clinton Leasing.
 - 8—William Daniel, b. March 22, 1824, d. April 4, 1901; m. Jan. 24, 1850, Mary Catherine Searing (b. Dec. 8, 1831, d. Feb. 15, 1911) had
 - 9—James Clinton, b. Dec. 26, 1850; m. Margaret C. Tiapaw; had Estelle Eva, William Pettit and Mahlon.
 - 10—Thomas Preston, b. Aug. 5, 1853, d. Nov. 20, 1901; m. Ada Koogle; and Frank, Blanche, Cora and Henry.
 - 11—Mason Thurber, b. Oct. 4, 1855; m. Louise Jenkins; had Alvin.
 - 12—Florine Elva, b. Feb. 16, 1858, d. March 17, 1913; m. Benj. F. Metsker (b. Nov. 16, 1857); had Artis Elizabeth, Mary and Pearl.
 - 13—Mary Margaret, b. March 17, 1860, m. John L. Metsker.
 - 14—William Scott, b. Aug. 8, 1862.
 - 15—Edward Sherman, b. Jan. 5, 1865; m. Cora Bartlett; had Mary Cecil, Wayne, Gail Bartlett.
 - 16—Martha Pauline, b. Oct. 3, 1868, d. March 11, 1913; m. James Williams (b. Feb. 22, 1868); had Neil Osmond and Clara Pauline.
 - 17—Warren Elmer, b. May 19, 1871; m. Cora Harkens; had Charles, Pearl, Doris and Lilah.
 - 18—Charles Payton, b. Nov. 14, 1873.
 - 19—Nancy Ferne, b. April 14, 1877, d. Jan. 18, 1911; m. Gilbert Rager; had Royal Harding and George.

CHARLES HARDING

Charles Harding, (ancestors not definitely traced), married Salie Butts; had a son

Benjamin, who married Nancy Dement; had

1—Lewis G., b. Dec. 16, 1799, d. Nov., 1880.

2—Elizabeth, b. Sept. 7, 1801, d. Feb. 3, 1879.

3—William D., b. July 28, 1803 d. Jan. 22, 1813.

4—Josiah, b. Oct. 28, 1805, d. June 20, 1813.

5—Jocasta, b. Aug. 12, 1808, d. Aug. 12, 1841.

6—Louisa Ann, b. Feb. 22, 1811, d. Aug. 10, 1889.

7—Sarah B., b. Oct. 5, 1815, d. Jan., 1886.

8—James Caldwell, b. Sept. 14, 1818, d. Oct. 3, 1845.

1—Lewis G. Harding, married Mary Brennen; had

9—Benjamin,

10—Mary J.,

11—Lydia,

12—Josiah,

13—Frederick,

14—Nancy E.,

15—William H.,

16—Eliza K.,

17—John Brennen.

2—Elizabeth Harding married, Sept. 25, 1823, Jacob Paul (1803-1887) had

18—Sarah E., b. March 15, 1825, m. John D. Moore.

Sarah E. and John D. Moore, m. March 16, 1848, had five sons and five daughters; John D. Moore died Aug. 28, 1894; Sarah E. Moore died Sept. 25, 1911.

19—Nancy D., b. March 4, 1827, m. Wm. H. Chandler.

20—Joseph M., b. May 24, 1829, m. Lucinda Wells.

21—Louisa Ann, b. Oct. 20, 1831, m. Thomas B. Moore.

Louisa Ann and Thomas B. Moore, m. Sept. 20, 1849, had four sons and three daughters; Thos. Moore died Oct. 8, 1895; Louisa Ann Moore died July 11, 1892.

22—Benjamin D., b. April 20, 1834, m. Mary L. Reynolds

23—Judson E., b. Sept. 1, 1838, m. Annie McGray.

24—William P., b. June 27, 1842, m. Mary Stansberry.

5—Jocasta Harding m. Elizabeth Stevens; had

25—Nancy

26—Francis

27—James

28—Sarah

SAMUEL HARDING

- 1—Joseph Harding and Martha Doane Harding had two children: John and *Joseph*.
- 2—Joseph, b. 1624, married Bethia Cook, April 4, 1660; had Martha, *Joseph*, Mary, Josiah, Amaziah, John, and by second wife, name unknown, Nathaniel, Joshua, Abiah and Samuel.
- 3—Joseph, born July 8, 1667, no record of wife's name, had Joseph, *Amaziah*, Priscilla, Dinah, Mary, Grace, Bethiah, John and Neemiah.
- 4—Amaziah, married Bethiah Sears; had Silvanus, Joseph, Seth, Desire, Bethiah, Grace, *Samuel*, Thomas, Prence, Paul and Susannah.
- 5—Samuel, born March 29, 1736, married Sarah Harding, Dec. 29, 1755; had Simon and *Samuel*.
- 6—Samuel, born in Falmouth, Mass., Sept. 25, 1756. In 1782 he served six months in the Revolutionary War as a substitute; he was then but 16 years of age; he enlisted at Falmouth and was in the 13th Mass. regiment under Col. Turner and Captain Hunt; he was awarded a pension 50 years later and walked to Washington from Sullivan, Pa., to establish his claim. He married Love Mahew of Martha's Vineyard, Sept. 25, 1789, and died at Sullivan, Tioga county, Pa., April 16, 1850. The family moved from Cape Cod to Vermont (Orange county) with five children. In Vermont nine more children were born, and the family then moved to Pennsylvania in 1817. Had
- 7—Joshua, b. Sept. 15, 1790.
- 8—Sarah, b. March 15, 1792.
- 9—Joseph, b. April 8, 1794.
- 10—Lucy, b. Sept. 12, 1796.
- 11—Theodore, b. Oct. 8, 1798.
- 12—Rachel, b. Oct. 10, 1800, d. July, 1898.
- 13—Mehitable, b. Sept. 16, 1802.
- 14—Nobly, b. Feb. 12, 1804.
- 15—Asenath, b. Oct. 13, 1806.
- 16—Amy, b. Dec. 12, 1808.
- 17—Loretta, b. July 25, 1810.
- 18—Simon, b. Nov. 20, 1812.
- 19—Josiah, b. July 25, 1814.

CARPENTER HARDING

- 1—Abraham (son of John, 1567-1637), first mentioned in Colonial records in 1638; married Elizabeth Harding in 1639; took the freedman's oath in 1645; moved to Medfield in 1650; died March 22, 1665; had
- 2—John, born 1644; married Nov. 26, 1665 Hannah Wood; married, 2nd, Dec. 16, 1668, Elizabeth Adams; died March 4, 1720; had
- 3—Abraham, Capt., born Dec. 27, 1683; married Mary Smith in 1703; married, 2nd, Mary Partridge Nov. 25, 1706; died May 4, 1741; had
- 4—Jabez, born June 28, 1726; married Jan. 3, 1753, Miriam Weld; died Feb. 20, 1800; had
- 5—Stephen
- 6—Miriam, b. Nov. 10, 1759; married Moses Weld
- 7—Amy 8—Lucy 9—Jabez
-
- 5—Stephen, born Oct. 21, 1754; married Oct. 24, 1772, Martha Marsh; died Feb. 4, 1807; had
- 10—Stephen
- 11—Miriam, who married George Draper and had John W., Olive and Moses.
-
- 10—Stephen, born Oct. 8, 1773; married Augusta Wight in 1790; died Sept. 17, 1845; had
- 12—Jabez
- Married 2nd, Mary Russ, 1793; had
- 13—Stephen,
- 14—Miriam,
- 15—Mary, Olive
- Married 3d, Sarah Carpenter, 1806; had
- 16—Carpenter,
- 17—Isaac C.,
- 18—Johnson,
- 19—John, drowned in Cincinnati, 1832.
- 20—Benjamin, drowned at New Orleans.
-
- 13—Stephen Harding, born Auburn, N. Y., 1796; married Ann Terry; moved to Ohio where he resided until 1841 when he removed to southern Indiana, and later to Iowa.

where he died; his children were Benjamin F.; Charles died in Union army; William T., Mary Russ (Morrow), Olive, Catherine, Phoebe, Sarah.

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- 16—Carpenter Harding, born 1813; died 1876; married Ann Vorhees, daughter of Samuel Vorhees, 1835; was Colonel of a regiment in Mexican war, and served with the 22nd Indiana Volunteers in Civil War; died 1884; had
- 21—Sarah Jane, b. 1836.
- 22—Samuel V., born Feb. 26, 1838, d. 1912.
- 23—Johnson (Rev.), b. 1840, d. 1915..
- 24—John B., b. 1842, d. 1865; married Mattie Alberts.
- 25—Carrie, b. 1845, married Dr. J. H. Davis.
- 26—Stephen, b. 1847, d. 1865; served in 67th Indiana Volunteers in Civil War.

17—Isaac C. Harding was a Free Will Baptist preacher; went from Ohio to Iowa soon after the Mexican War; later went to Kansas and was last heard from in Missouri at about the time of the Civil War; his children were Elizabeth (Petty), William, John, Isaac and Frank.

18—Johnson Harding, born near Kanawa Salt Works, Va., Nov. 20, 1807; lived there until about 1823, then he went to Kentucky, and later to Sangamon county, Ill., married Feb. 25, 1830, Phyletta L. Goodell; he was killed while raising heavy timbers in a mill near Canton, Fulton Co., Ill., July 31, 1836; had John Madison, b. 1831, disappeared from DeWitt county, Ill., Feb. 1866; Charles Wesley, b. Oct. 7, 1833, died at age of 14; William Franklin, b. June 14, 1835.

22—Samuel Vorhees Harding married Christie Stark, May, 1860.

24—John B. Harding married Mattie Alberts; had

27—John Vorhees, b. 1865.

27—John Vorhees Harding married -----; had

28—Violet Ethel, b. 1889, d. 1920.

29—Esther Vernal b. 1890, d. 1898,

30—Samuel V., b. 1895.

THE HARDINGS
IN AMERICA

BOOK TWO

A GENEALOGICAL REGISTER
OF THE DESCENDANTS OF

AMOS HARDING

COMPILED AND EDITED BY
WILBUR J. HARDING

A. D. 1925

Genealogical Chart of the Amos Harding Family

HARDING	TRYON	SLOCUM	TRIPP
JOHN 1567-1637			
RICHARD 1587-1657		ANTHONY	
STEPHEN 1623-1698	ABEL	GILES -1683	JOHN 1610-1678
ABRAHAM 1656 1694	JOSEPH	SAMUEL 1657-1700	PELEG 1642-1714
STEPHEN 1681 1750	JAMES	GILES 1682-1726	JOB 1673-
ABRAHAM 1720 1806	JOSEPH 1720-1790	JOSEPH	ISAAC 1700-1778
ABRAHAM 1744 1815	HULDA 1743-1812	SARAH 1738-1808	WILLIAM 1736-1820
AMOS 1764-1839	Married 1784		PHOEBE 1767-1844

ABIGAIL -- 1785-1861
 LYDIA -- 1788-1800
 GEORGE TRYON -- 1790-1860
 WILLIAM TRIPP -- 1792-1884
 RUAMI -- 1793-1799
 SOLOMON E. -- 1794-1872
 MORDECAI RICE -- 1795-1870
 WELTHY -- 1797-1886
 EBENEZER S. -- 1798-1882

BENJ. FRANKLIN -- 1802-1838
 HULDA -- 1804-1808
 HILAH -- 1805-1877
 JOHN -- 1807-1884
 CHAUNCEY C. -- 1809-1880
 JEMIMA -- 1810-1811
 JOSEPH -- 1811-1813
 MAHALA ANN -- 1813-1904

BY WAY OF EXPLANATION

The Genealogical Register of the Hardings was originally intended to embrace only that portion of the family tracing their descent from and through Amos Harding, but by solicitation of others of the name the scope of the work was widened and enlarged to include a number of other branches of the family as will be noted on pages previous to this. That portion of the work embraced in Book Two, however, relates exclusively to the Amos Harding family.

In order to secure the greatest clarity possible in the listing of the descendants, a system of running numbers has been used, which in most cases seem to be self explanatory. The main idea has been to arrange the families of each of the sons and daughters of Amos and Phoebe Tripp Harding, so far as they have been reported, under a chapter head representing that particular branch or family, and giving to each child and grandchild so far as could be traced, a running number by means of which any descendant might be readily traced either forwards or backwards.

The direct line of descent of Amos Harding starts with John (page 21), through Richard (page 23), Stephen (page 27), Abraham 3 (page 28), Abraham 14 (page 32) to Amos 20.

Desiring to trace the lineage of any child or grandchild, the reverse order of numbers must be followed. The number preceding the name of a child is again used in proper order when the name appears as a parent. For example: Desiring to trace the lineage of Ruth V. Harding whom you find listed as 165 in Chapter 11, you will note that she is a daughter of George T. Harding, Jr., 97; referring back you find 97 listed as a son of George T. Harding, Sr., 34; This number 34 is listed as a son of Charles A. Harding 4, and number four you find is the fourth child of George Tyron Harding (at the head of Chapter 11), the second child of Amos and Phoebe Harding.

Similarly, any descendant listed in the Register may be traced either forwards or backwards. Where the number given as a child is not repeated as a parent, it shows that that particular name was not further reported.

AMOS HARDING

AMOS, the eldest of the five children born to Abraham and Hulda Tryon Harding, first saw the light of day in Orange county, New York, March 19, 1764. Whether the place of his birth was at Deer Park (now Port Jarvis) or at one of the other places where records of residence of the family have been found, is uncertain. Abraham Harding and Hulda Tryon were married at Waterford, Conn., July 6, 1762 and immediately came to Orange county where Abraham's parents had settled a year previous.

In 1774, when the subject of this sketch was about 10 years old, his parents, with their three sons, and accompanied by other members of the father's family, left their New York home and joined the Connecticut settlers who were then colonizing in eastern Pennsylvania the tract then known as the "Connecticut Reserve" and located farms on the west bank of the Susquehanna river, in the historic Wyoming Valley, in what later became Exeter township, Luzerne county.

A year or two previous to this date Stephen Harding, an uncle of Abraham, who later attained distinction for his heroic defense against the Indians while in command of Ft. Jenkins, together with the families of Jonathan Slocum and Isaac Tripp, his father-in-law, had come from Connecticut and established homes in this community. The family of Wm. Tripp, whose daughter Phoebe later become the wife of Amos Harding, came to the "Reserve" the same year as did Abraham Harding and family.

In the vicinity of the place where they found a home there were a number of Harding families, pioneering their way to homes, and as they all settled close together this became known as the "Harding Settlement," and in years afterwards a postoffice was established there which was given the name of "Harding," which it still retains.

A few miles to the south of this settlement a fort had been erected as a protection against possible Indian raids and this pioneer outpost, manned by a mere handful of men, was known as Ft. Jenkins or Jenkins' Fort, and was under the command of Capt. Stephen Harding.

This part of Pennsylvania was the scene of many conflicts between the Pennsylvania authorities and the Connecticut settlers, each of whom claimed ownership, and this series of conflicts culminated in the summer of 1778 when an allied band of Indians, consisting of members of the Iroquois, Seneca and Delaware tribes, reinforced by a band of Tories or English sympathizers, all under the command of "Indian" Butler, a Tory, and Queen Esther of the Iroquois, took the war-path against the settlers of the Wyoming Valley, advancing down the west side of the river.

The Harding settlement was directly in the path of the advance and was one of the first points encountered by the savage forces, and as the report of the coming raid passed from settler to settler, Abraham Harding gathered his family together and fell back to the slight protection offered by the force at Ft. Jenkins.

Destroying everything in their path the savages reached the fort on the afternoon of June 30, 1778, and the history of the memorable battle which followed records the fact that "Everyone able to point a gun fought with a desperation as only one can when fighting for life. For three days and nights the little party gathered at this fort kept the invaders at bay and then, realizing the scantiness of their provisions and ammunition, and suffering the loss of several members of the party, the defenders fell back under the cover of darkness to Forty Fort where most of the settlers of that region had taken refuge."

It was near Fort Jenkins that Benjamin and Stukley Harding lost their lives, being the first victims of the savage invasion of the region. They were sons of Capt. Stephen Harding and on the first news of the approach of the savages they had left their father's farm on the north border of the settlement to join their father's party at the Fort. But they were surprised by a part of the invading force and after a desperate struggle were killed. Their bodies were afterwards recovered and taken to the site of the Fort (now West Pittson) and buried. In after years a monument was erected to their memory on which was inscribed: "Sweet be the Sleep of Those Who Prefer Death to Slavery."

When the party of settlers from Ft. Jenkins reached Forty Fort that post was under the command of Col. Zebulon Butler and the defenders consisted of 230 enrolled men—many of them aged men and minors—and about 70 boys, a total of 300.

The Indian invaders reached this post on the morning of July 3d, and were met in battle by the force of 300 under Col. Butler against the allied force estimated to number at least 1200. The little force, after a brave stand, was soon flanked, losing many of their number in the fighting, and with club and tomahawk the Indians soon completed the work of slaughter. Out of 300 men only 140 escaped death, and some of these were afterwards captured and killed.

During the battle a number of the settlers who had taken refuge in the Fort with their wives and children, escaped to the dense woods surrounding the post, and after many days' travel through the "Swamp of Death" enduring the most extreme hardships and dangers, reached a haven at Stroudsburg, in Monroe county. Among those who made this terrible retreat for their lives were Abraham Harding, his wife and two remaining sons, Amos and Joseph. The strain and hardship encountered in this march proved to be too much for the strength of the youngest son, Joseph, and he died on the way.

After the massacre at Forty Fort the savages swept up and down the valley, burning and murdering on every hand, until the once peaceful settlement was but a blackened and ruined waste, and it was thus that historic "Wyoming Massacre" took its place in the annals of American history.

The bodies of the murdered settlers remained where they had fallen until October 22nd, nearly four months later, when a military guard collected them and buried the remains in one huge grave.

In the latter part of October, 1778, Abraham Harding and his little family returned to the scene of their early settlement in Luzerne county and again took up the burden of home-making, rebuilding their houses and sheds, clearing a farm in the wilderness for the next season's crops.

But the settlement was not yet safe from Indian marauders, as it was in November of that year that little Francis Slocum was captured and carried off into a life-long captivity by the Indians, her father, Jonathan Slocum and grandfather Isaac Tripp killed in front of their home. This was the last Indian raid of any consequence in the Wyoming Valley.

Amos Harding assisted his father in clearing a farm in this blackened wilderness, and on August 21, 1784, he married Phoebe Tripp, a daughter of William and Sarah Slocum Tripp, who also

made the retreat to Stroudsburg and returned to the Valley with the Harding family, and at once commenced work on a farm of his own, which was a part of the land he had helped his father to clear.

Amos and Phoebe Tripp Harding resided on this farm for 16 years, and in 1800, with their family of eight children moved to Susquehenna county and settled near Clifford (or Clifford's Springs) in the township of that name. Here was the seat of that branch of the family for many years.

Amos Harding was prominently identified with the settlement and development of that community for many years, becoming especially prominent in all affairs bearing on the religious and educational life of the settlement. He was an ardent member of the Old School Baptist church and was one of the organizers of the first religious organizations of that denomination in that part of the state.

In 1820 Amos Harding and wife and several of their children, left their Pennsylvania home and migrated to Richland county, Ohio, where his son, Mordecai Rice, had settled two years before. All purchased land in one tract, and thus sprung up another "Harding Settlement" in Richland and Morrow counties, a name that clung to it for many years.

Soon after coming to Ohio Amos Harding began the organization of a church and school, and the first church organized in 1822 was first housed in a log building on a part of his farm. This building also served as a school house for a number of years.

Phoebe Tripp Harding was born in Orange county, N. Y., August 17, 1767. She went with her father's party to Pennsylvania in 1774, and as a young girl witnessed the horrors of the Wyoming Massacre, the awful journey through the wilderness to Stroudsburg, and returned with her father's party to the Valley in the fall of 1778. She died at the home of her son, John Harding, in LaPorte County, Indiana, November 2, 1844, at the age of 77 years, 2 months and 16 days.

Amos Harding died July 10, 1839, and his remains now rest in the old burying ground near Blooming Grove, Ohio, the site of which is on a part of the land he purchased in 1820 when he came from Pennsylvania. His last resting place is marked by a plain

sandstone slab, much effaced by time and the elements, on which may be deciphered the inscription:

In Memory of
AMOS HARDING
WHO DIED
JULY 10, 1839
IN THE 74TH YEAR OF HIS AGE
*“Oh death thou hast conquered me
I by thy darts am slain,
But Christ has conquered thee
And I shall rise again.”*

Amos and Phoebe Harding were the parents of seventeen children, twelve of whom grew to maturity and raised families. But one of the twelve, Benjamin, died under 70 years of age, three—William, Mahala and Welthy—lived to be over 90. Records have been obtained of 109 grandchildren and 367 great grandchildren.

CHILDREN OF AMOS AND PHOEBE TRIPP HARDING

- 1—Abigail, b. May 14, 1785, d. Sept. 3, 1861.
- 2—Lydia, b. _____, 1788, d. _____, 1800.
- 3—George Tryon, b. June 15, 1790, d. January 9, 1860.
- 4—William Tripp, b. July 15, 1792, d. February 4, 1884.
- 5—Ruami, b. _____, 1793, d. _____, 1799.
- 6—Solomon E., b. January 31, 1794, d. February 17, 1872.
- 7—Mordecai Rice, b. November 18, 1795, d. March 21, 1870.
- 8—Welthy, b. March 15, 1797, d. August 19, 1886.
- 9—Ebenezer Slocum, b. Aug. 23, 1798, d. April 22, 1882.
- 10—Benjamin Franklin, b. August 6, 1802, d. April 3, 1838.
- 11—Hulda, b. _____, 1804, drowned, 1806.
- 12—Hilah, b. April 10, 1805, d. Sept. 13, 1877.
- 13—John, b. July 11, 1807, d. April 22, 1884.
- 14—Chauncey C., b. January 14, 1809, d. December 8, 1880.
- 15—Jemima, b. _____, 1810, d. in childhood.
- 16—Joseph, b. 1811, died in 1813.
- 17—Mahala, b. June 25, 1813, d. February 26, 1904.

WILL OF AMOS HARDING

IN THE NAME OF GOD, Amen, I, Amos Harding, being weak in body but of sound and disposing mind, thanks be to Almighty God for the same, do make and publish this, my Last Will and Testament:

Item First:—I give to my Wife, Phoebe Harding one-third of all my property at my death.

Item 2;—I give to George T. Harding, my oldest son, Fifty Dollars.

3d;—I give to Oliver W. P. Harding, my Grandson, Fifty Dollars.

4th;—I give to Charles Harding, my grandson, Fifty Dollars.

5th;—I give to my second son, William T. Harding, Fifty Dollars.

6th;—I give to my third son Solomon E. Harding, fifty dollars.

7th;—I give to Laten, son of my third son, Solomon E. Harding fifty dollars.

8th;—I give to Welthy Wells my oldest daughter, Fifty Dollars.

9th;—I give to Amos H. Baker son of my daughter Welthy, Fifty Dollars.

10th;—Having before given to my son, Mordecai R. Harding more than I am able to give to my other children, I will that he should have of my property Five Dollars.

11th;—I give to my son Ebenezer S. Harding, Fifty Dollars.

12th;—I give to the heirs of my son Benjamin A. Harding, deceased Fifty Dollars, and as much as will cause a pair of tombstones to be erected at his grave and lettered with one verse of Watts Hymns.

13th;—I give to my second daughter Hilah Webster, Twenty-five Dollars.

14th;—I give to the second son of my daughter Hilah, Welcome Alexander Webster, Twenty-five Dollars.

15th;—I give to my son John Harding Fifty Dollars.

16th;—I give to my youngest son, C. Chauncey Harding two hundred Dollars.

17th;—I give to my youngest daughter Mahala Field, Five Dollars.

18th;—I give to the oldest son of my youngest daughter, James E. Field, Forty-five Dollars, and it is also my will that after my honest debts are paid and the expenses of my last sickness and funeral there should be more or less property that there is here bequeathed it is my will that my heirs draw it in the same proportion as above bequeathed.

I do hereby appoint Hiram Wells and C. Chauncey Harding Executors of this my last will and testament, hereby authorizing and empowering them to compromise, adjust, release and discharge in such manner as they may deem proper the debts due me. It is my will if it is convenient that this my last will be read at my grave.

I do hereby revoke all former Wills by me made.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 14th day of January, A. D., 1839.

AMOS HARDING (Seal)

Signed and acknowledged by Amos Harding as his last Will and testament in our presence and signed by us in his presence.

Phares Jackson.

Margaret Jackson.

A PERSONAL RECOLLECTION OF AMOS HARDING

*(Copy of a letter written by Salmon W. Tripp, of Brooklyn, N. Y.,
to Hon. Amos J. Harding, Chicago, Ill.)*

Brooklyn, N. Y., August 4, 1881.

Hon. A. J. Harding,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear sir: Your letter of recent date requesting something in the way of a personal memory of Amos Harding, your respected grandfather, finds me well and enjoying life as well as could be expected.

Will say that I was born in Susquehanna county, Penn., in 1810. My mother died when I was but five years of age. In 1820 my father, who had been in poor health for several years, joined the Harding families in their journey to the then new country of Ohio, and I as a lad of 10, accompanied him. Amos Harding's wife, Aunt Phoebe, was a cousin of my father.

I do not remember much of that trip now, except that it was a long ride and that both horse and ox teams were used in making the trip. Within a few weeks after reaching the site of the new settlement my father died. His was the first death to occur in that little colony. I do not distinctly remember where he was buried originally, but afterwards Uncle Amos Harding had the body moved to a new burying ground which he had laid out on his farm, and it still rests there.

After the death of my father I became a member of the Amos Harding family which at that time consisted of Uncle Amos and Aunt Phoebe, their sons John, Ben and Chauncey, and daughters Hila and Mahala. The other children were married and in their own homes.

Amos and Phoebe Harding were "Uncle" and "Aunt" to that whole settlement. They were truly wonderful people, and to my childish recollections Amos Harding was one of the best and greatest men that ever lived. My recollection of him was of a man tall and straight as an Indian, with an abundance of dark hair which he always wore rather long, and a row of what we used to call

“Irish chin whiskers” extending from ear to ear. Previous to his death his hair turned very grey.

Amos Harding was much in favor of education, and although he had no great amount of it himself, he insisted that his children and grandchildren should have all they could get. To this end he donated the land and helped erect the first log school house in that part of the settlement, and he personally saw to it that school was “kept” there whenever it was possible to secure a teacher. The little log building was also used as a place of worship by the Baptists.

I especially remember one occasion when the teacher, who had come out from “York State” was taken sick and we children looked forward to a pleasant vacation. But Uncle Amos blocked that by taking the teacher’s place himself, and while he had no particular qualifications as a teacher, I believed we really learned more from his store of hard, common sense during that week than from a month under any other teacher we ever had.

If there was any one virtue more prominent than another in the character of Amos Harding, it was his desire for absolute justice for every man. It was this phase of his character which made him a general arbitrator of all neighborhood disputes among those pioneer settlers, and although he served several years as a frontier “Justice of the Peace” most of the cases which were brought before him were settled “out of court” through his efforts.

I well remember the death and funeral of Amos Harding. The funeral was held on a very hot day in July and the concourse of people attending was the largest that had ever been seen in that community. A “Hard Shell” Baptist preacher by the name of Wendel preached the sermon and the body was deposited in the Blooming Grove cemetery which was then but a bare spot on a rising piece of ground just east (as I now remember it) of the old farm house, and was really a part of the old farm.

I remained a member of the Harding household until 1839 when Aunt Phoebe went to Indiana to make her home with her son John and I then came farther east where I have remained ever since.

A PERSONAL RECOLLECTION OF AMOS HARDING

A SHORT time before his death, Mordecai Rice Harding, Jr., father of the compiler of this record, furnished the following reminiscences of his Grandfather, Amos Harding, copying that part of it relating to the family record from the family Bible, furnishing altogether one of the most reliable records of the life of Amos Harding:

"I have a very clear recollection of my Grandfather, Amos Harding, although I was but 12 years old when he died. As I remember him he was tall and straight, with dark eyes, and in his later years his hair was silver white. He lived but about two miles from my father's house, living then I believe with either Salmon or George Tryon. I remember that I was at the house frequently. When I was about ten years old father had occasion to visit grandfather to obtain from him a statement regarding some land which he formerly owned in Susquehanna county, Pa., and over the title to which there was some dispute. I went with father that evening and well remember the occasion. Grandfather's memory at that time was very clear although it may have failed before he died. After securing the statement regarding the land in controversy, grandfather talked a great deal regarding his earlier life in Pennsylvania, and at father's request he gave a brief outline of his life's history, the principal dates of which father wrote down and later copied in the family Bible. This record as I now find it is as follows:

Amos Harding, born in Orange Co., N. Y., March 10, 1764.
Son of Abraham Harding, born near Waterford, Conn., in 1740.
Son of Abraham Harding, born at Warwick, R. I., in 1720. (was a soldier in Revolutionary war)
Son of Stephen Harding, born at Providence, R. I., 1681.

"Grandfather came to Connecticut from Rhode Island in 1732, where my father was born. In 1762 they left Connecticut, and came to New York. The next year father married Hulda Tryon in Connecticut. I was born a year later. When I was 13 years old father and family and two uncles moved to Luzerne county, Pennsylvania. Here they all remained for many years. In 1778

when the Indians came down the river our family had gone to Jenkin's Fort which was in command of my uncle Stephen (here follows account of battle and retreat as given elsewhere). We came back to the Valley in the fall and rebuilt our house and sheds. Father and I had cleared a large tract of timber land and when I married Phoebe Tripp in 1784 he gave me one-half of this cleared land. We lived on that farm 16 years and then moved up into Susquehanna county in 1800, and remained there until 1820 when I moved here."

SOME PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS OF PHOEBE TRIPP HARDING

THOMAS DUNHAM HARDING, eldest son of John and Elvira Harding, from whom many of the facts regarding the early history of the Amos Harding family history were obtained, at the request of the compiler, furnished the following interesting sketch of his grandmother, Phoebe Tripp Harding, wife of Amos Harding:

I was about seven years old and well remember seeing grandmother on her arrival at my father's house, coming from Ohio with Uncle Richard and Aunt Mahala Field. This was in 1839, and shortly after the death of grandfather Amos. Grandmother made her home with my father for about five years until her death in 1844.

I used to be very fond of my grandmother as she was always very kind to me and used to tell me many stories of the hardships of her early life in the new country of Pennsylvania. One story she used to tell was how she killed a bear with a broomstick. It was when she and grandfather were living in the woods in Pennsylvania. At first there were no neighbors nearer than 20 miles, but in a short time a family settled about two miles from them. One day an old bear and three cubs came along out of the woods and as they passed the house one of the cubs ran up a tree near the house and the mother bear and remaining cubs went on. Grandmother got her knitting work and taking a seat out under a tree kept the young bear up the tree until Grandfather came home;

grandfather had no gun and she prevailed on him to go to this new neighbor's and borrow a gun. When he returned the bear lay stretched on a limb and as Grandfather shot at its head he shot too low, the bullet just grazing the bear's foot and the animal fell to the ground. As he fell Grandmother stood in the door of the cabin, a few yards away, with a broom in her hand, and as the bear raised to his feet grandmother ran and struck him on the nose with the broom stick in such a way that the blow killed him—and the family had bear meat for supper.

Another story she used to tell in illustrating the hardships and privations of those early days was that when she and grandfather moved into the woods in Susquehanna county there were no woolen mills and very few places where carding was done. They had one cow and three sheep and grandmother used to work some of the wool up into batts and some into yarn, and then she would quilt and patch their clothes with this yarn. She said she patched the boys' pants in this way until some times she would stand the garments up on the legs and they were so stiff they would stand alone.

SOME PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS OF THE AMOS HARDING FAMILY

By Helen Harding Meredith,

I WAS delighted to receive the photos sent me from Ohio, as they carried me back, oh, so many years, to Grandfather's farm where, in early childhood and youth, I spent many happy days, and a little sadness crept over me when I realized that they are all gone, never to return, and the old farm in the hands of strangers.

My first recollection of Grandfather is when he was living in the brick house afterwards occupied by John Morthland. Grandfather entered this land when he made his first trip from Susquehanna county, Penn., to Richland county, Ohio, to look over the land. Then he returned to Pennsylvania and trekked all the way to the new home in a wagon. My father was about one year old at that time, and I've heard Grandfather tell how often for hours, he carried my father on his back as he walked beside the wagon.

Our Grandmother's name was Susannah Baker. She had married first, Thomas Newton and had one child, a little girl, Eliza Ann Newton. Thomas Newton died and Grandfather married his widow. Grandfather raised the little girl just as his own and when she grew to womanhood and married Hiram Wells he gave her a horse, a cow and 40 acres of land just as he did the rest of the children. She had two children by Hiram Wells; Thomas Newton Wells was the first and the mother died at the birth of the second which died soon after and was buried with its mother on Grandfather's farm. The bodies were later removed to the Blooming Grove cemetery.

Grandfather and Grandmother took the little Tommie Wells and raised him until he was 10 or 12 years old. From talk I've heard among the kinfolks I guess Uncle Hiram Wells was not much for a "money getter." While he was a good worker he did not accumulate. He worked for several years for Aunt Welthy Harding Baker—then a widow. Aunt Welthy was Grandfather's sister and her first husband, Joseph Baker, was Grandmother Harding's brother.

Uncle Hiram Wells finally married Aunt Welthy and he then

took little Tommy into the Baker family, as Aunt Welthy had a large family. This proved too much for Grandmother: in the first place she was very indignant that Hiram married Aunt Welthy, for she was 12 years older than he, and Grandmother was very wrought up over her son-in-law marrying and taking little Tommy from her; it caused a lasting estrangement, as long as Grandmother lived, between the two families.

Aunt Welthy finally sold her farm to her son, Stephen Baker and she and Uncle Hiram moved to Michigan. After the quarrel they only occasionally allowed little Tommy to go to see his grandmother. As they were leaving for Michigan—they went in wagons—and as they drove past Grandfather's house they let Tommy go in and bid his Grandmother good bye, but none of the rest of them went in.

I believe I know more about my Grandmother than any of the other grandchildren, for when my father went to California, the first time, March, 1850, he left my mother and myself at Grandfather's where we stayed until Father came back, and it was while we were there that Grandmother died. She died in March, 1851, and was buried on a Sunday, and the following day my father returned home; when he found his mother was gone it nearly broke his heart for he was her favorite child and he thought everything of his mother.

Grandmother was a grand, noble woman. I've heard my mother tell of her good qualities and of the noble deeds she did. There are few daughters-in-law that can go into a family and stay a year without a little friction somewhere along the line. Mother has said that all the time she lived there, there was nothing but kindness and consideration for her, and while there her first baby boy was born, and her own father and mother could not have treated her any better than did Grandfather's family. I can remember when Grandmother died and I still cherish a little book she gave me.

Grandfather used to tell me stories of earlier days as a settler in the wild woods of Ohio. He personally knew "Johnny Appleseed" (Chapman), and Captain Pipe an Indian chief, and had entertained them at his log cabin. Grandfather first built a log house, and as the family increased he built an additional log house; finally all the Hardings went in together and bought a saw mill, and then they sawed their own lumber and built lumber houses;

and nearly all the old farm houses in that country 'round about were built from lumber sawed at the Harding Mill, which has long since gone the way of all material things.

I want to go back a bit to Aunt Welthy Harding Baker. She was a superior woman—a masterly woman, of great executive ability, imperious, dominant. I received a letter from her when she was 88 years of age which, in point of chirography, orthography and grammatical construction would compare favorably with the productions of some of our modern high school graduates. And when one thinks back to her time, when she went to school in a log school house, with such limited opportunities, one must acknowledge that she certainly made the best of them. She always wanted to progress, grasped at everything new, wanted to keep abreast of the times, and was a wonder, intellectually, at her 91½ years when she passed away here at her home at Santa Ana.

Uncle Salmon was brusque of manner and speech, and we young folks stood somewhat in awe of him. He certainly was capable of thinking for himself, had a mind of his own even if no one else in the whole universe agreed with him. He was a member of the Old School Baptist church, or "Hard Shells," as they were familiarly called, and it was really laughable, sometimes, at church, when he would disagree with the preacher. He always carried a cane, and I remember one time when the preacher made a statement from the pulpit and quoted Scripture, Uncle Salmon disagreed and he right then and there tapped his cane on the floor and said emphatically, "My bible don't say so." Well, that was just fun for us young folks, and we never got through quoting it; and even now, sometimes when I don't agree with someone or something, I am tempted to say "MY bible don't say so," and then I think of Uncle Salmon and say to myself, well, "I'm tarred with the same stick."

In looking back over Uncle Salmon's life, as I understand it in maturer years, he was more than an ordinary man. He had two daughters, Delilah and Charlotte. Delilah married Jacob Lortscher and Charlotte married a McGowan, a brother of Perry Harding's wife. McGowan died leaving a baby daughter. Uncle Salmon took Charlotte and her baby home and raised this little grandchild. His son Lathrop's wife died, leaving children. Uncle Salmon took the boy Truman and raised him to manhood. His son Washington started for California in company with his brother, Tary, and in crossing the Isthmus of Nicaragua he died

at Virgin Bay, on the shore of Lake Nicauragua and was buried there. He left his wife and daughter Mary with his father, expecting them to come to him after he should be located in California. After his death Uncle Salmon kept them for several years until the widow married again. Later Uncle Salmon took the little girl back into his own family and raised her like his own daughter. Then his niece, Philena Palmer, a daughter of his brother Benjamin, left her husband in Indiana and came to Uncle Salmon's house with her two little girls, and he opened his heart and his doors, took them in and kept them for a long time. When his son Avery married he took his wife to Uncle's home where they lived and where Dr. Frank Harding was born. O, but Uncle Salmon had a house full of his children, grandchildren and nieces, and never once was there a complaint. He was what was called "full handed," with plenty of every thing.

I can remember of going to Uncle Salmon's home with my mother, and what a house-full it was; a great table stretched in the dining room and filled. Aunt Susan, his wife, was a delicate woman and did not pretend to look after the culinary arrangements. They always kept plenty of help both in the house and on the farm. That is how Delilah became acquainted with Jacob Lortscher. In those days the hired help was just like the family and of course he was associated with Delilah. He had just come from Switzerland looking for work on a farm and as it was harvest time Uncle Salmon hired him. He couldn't speak a word of English and after their marriage my father often used to tease Delilah and ask her how "Jake" managed to "pop the question" inasmuch as he could speak no English. She would laugh and say that when two people loved each other they would find a way to make it known.

Uncle Salmon was a rabid Democrat and when, as a child, I heard the kinfolks talk about his politics I thought it must be something terrible to be a Democrat, for all the rest of the Hardings were "Abolitionists", dyed-in-the-wool, and I heard such pitiful stories told of the cruelties to the slaves, and was told that the slave owners were Democrats. How my childish heart ached when I read "Uncle Tom's Cabin," which was the first novel father allowed me to read, and I used to cry and become so indignant that I wanted to fight.

Well, there are mighty few men like Uncle Salmon was, even if he was short of speech and austere—and a Democrat; a more

kind hearted man never lived, nor a better neighbor.

Permit another digression to Welthy Harding-Baker-Wells. After the estrangement between our grandfather's family and her, there was no sociability between them. The young folks met at parties and singing schools. The Hardings were very fond of their cousin Artemissa, and they were opposed to her marrying Andrew Caton. Aunt Welthy made a great wedding for Artemissa, inviting the whole countryside, but did not invite Grandfather's young folks, and they felt terribly hurt over it. My father and Uncle Harvey (they were both married then) planned a revenge which they executed. They were familiar with the plan of the old brick house and knew just where the pantry was located, and they knew that the pantry would be filled with "fixins'" for tomorrow's wedding. Aunt Welthy was a famous cook and they surmised correctly that she would have everything in great abundance. In the dead of night these two went to the pantry window and abstracted all the turkey, nearly all the cakes, pies and sauces and carried them away. They did not go into the pantry but reached in with a long-handled fork and slipped the goodies from the shelves. They afterwards heard that there was consternation in that household the next day, but they were game. One of the boys rode past the house in the morning and the whole family was out killing turkeys, and everybody seemed to be in a rush. The two boys, having secured the loot, didn't know what to do with it, so they divided it among those of grandfather's family who were married. My father and mother were living at Grandfather's house then and they kept some, hiding it for fear a search might be made. Aunt Lucinda and Aunt Jerusha and Uncle Harvey each got some. I've heard them tell of how those two boys—and in fact, the whole family—gloated over their escapade, for they hated Andrew Caton and thought Artemissa was throwing herself away by marrying him. Well, they are all gone, and of this story none know but myself. A long time afterwards they heard that Aunt Welthy suspected the Harding boys.

After the family moved to Michigan and our grandfather married again, they came back to Ohio on a visit, coming to Grandfather's, and he received them, and ever afterwards when they came back they always came to Grandfather's. Artemissa did not live long. She died within a year and was buried in Michigan.

I remember very well Aunt Hilah Webster. They came on from Indiana on a visit and were at our home at Galion for several

days. I never saw Aunt Mahalah Field. I remember one fall there was a reunion of the Harding families. It was customary in those days to go visiting after the fall work was done, the corn husked and put in the crib. This reunion was at Grandfather's — on the farm where he died. The kinfolks came from Michigan, Aunt Welthy; from Indiana Uncle John; from Iowa Aunt Lucinda and children; Uncle Billy, Uncle Salmon, Uncle Chauncey, Uncle Tryon, and all their wives, Grandfather's children and of course the grandchildren—there was a house full and the tables were filled more than once. Grandfather at that time had every kind of domestic fowl on the farm, and they were roasted in the brick oven that was back of the house. Fowls of every kind, turkey, chicken, goose, duck, peafowl, guineas, and a young pig, with everything in prodigal proportion were prepared. Believe me, it was some feed. My mother was helping with the cooking and serving, and of course I was around with the cousins and can yet smell the delicious odors coming from that bake oven. This was previous to 1860. It was an all-day affair and the visiting kinfolks were distributed around among the resident kinfolks, and then they visited in turn all the nieces and nephews, and it was well toward the holidays before they all went home. One winter Uncle Billy and Aunt Polly visited all winter among the Hardings, and when all had been visited it was Spring and time for the Spring work to begin.

Uncle Billy's girl, Lois, was my father's favorite cousin. She married an Englishman by the name of Dennet. She was a nurse in a hospital during the Civil War, having learned minor surgery from an English doctor who was a boyhood friend of her husband, and it was said that she could bandage a person from head to foot, using but one pin. In 1906 I spent a day with her at her home in Ogden, Utah. I had never met her and as our train was delayed for a day at Ogden I was delighted to know that I could visit with her, for she was a wonderful woman. Dennet, her husband, was an English bull dog, jealous and abusive; was jealous because the individuals in the hospital adored her for her kind and sympathetic work among them. The government appreciated her work and commissioned her Major Dennet. Having a keen sense of justice, high minded and proud spirited, she could not endure Dennet's crabbing and left him. Many years afterward she married Dunbar, an Irishman, who had fought in the Northern

army during the Civil war. She said she did not remember it, but after they were married he told she had nursed him in a hospital in southern Indiana, on the Ohio river. At that time she was Major Dennet. She had two children by Dunbar, but none by Dennet. She told me some wonderful tales of her experiences during the war. When I met her she reminded me of some rare, middle aged beauty that had just stepped down from a gilded frame.

Well, the old stock are all gone, and I belong to the fourth generation (counting from g. g. f. Amos). I was intimately acquainted and associated with the families of Uncles Tryon, Salmon and Chauncey, Aunt Welthy, and our own aunts and uncles, and in looking back over their lives I believe they were a race to be proud of. They did not make much noise in the world, in a public way, but they raised their families, inculcating in them a love of thrift, uprightness, honesty and good neighborship. A respect for all things spiritual, and raised them in the fear of the Lord, and so far as I know they have not departed from their teachings, and have made good American citizens, having the esteem of their fellow men and that confidence which is more to be desired than to be a great commodore. One of the Hardings has reached the highest point that can be reached by mortal—a President of the United States, the greatest country on earth, the greatest in the history of the world, and I am proud of the fact that a Harding has reached that pinnacle—and that Harding a kinsman of ours.

THE TRUE ORIGIN OF THE "NIGGER" STORY

By Helen Harding Meredith

I am going to tell you the facts regarding the "Nigger Story" which developed during the recent presidential campaign. The story as I will tell it is authentic, for I had the facts as related from Grandfather, Uncle Billy, Uncle Salmon and Uncle Chauncey, long, long years before the malicious scandal appeared in public.

In Susquehanna county, Pa., where the Hardings lived previous to their coming to Ohio, there also lived a man of a re-

vengeful, malicious nature; he had a quarrel with one of his neighbors—not a Harding—and out of revenge he girdled all the trees in this neighbor's orchard, which, of course, ruined them. The act was a criminal one, and for fear of punishment he fled from the country, and as there was no telegraph and no railroads in those days it was easy enough to escape and lose oneself in the wilderness.

When g. g. f. Amos Harding came to Ohio he saw a clearing with a log cabin in it, and going up to it to make inquiries he was surprised when the door opened and there stood the criminal who had fled from Pennsylvania. When this man found that his identity had been discovered he threatened Amos that if he told on him he would kill him. Knowing the revengeful and criminal nature of the man, Amos assured him that he did not want trouble and he could rest easy, as he would not inform on him.

Time passed, and they cleaned up little patches in the woods and had enough land in the stumpy region to plant a little wheat and corn, and in those days corn especially was quite an item with the pioneer settlers. Amos raised a nice lot of corn and had stored it in a log crib. After the harvest he missed some of his corn and continued to miss it. He couldn't understand what had become of the grain and so decided one night to watch; along in the dark hours the watchers saw someone approach the crib and enter it; they then closed in and caught the thief filling his sack with corn, and it proved to be the man who had fled from Pennsylvania. Realizing that he was again caught as a criminal he started the story that the Hardings were part negro. Then becoming frightened, afraid the Hardings would inform on him, he sold his land as quickly as he could and left the country and was never again heard of.

Of course there were many settlers besides the Hardings and the story, once started, never died out, and was whispered around, and finally some were so bold that when there was a dispute or a misunderstanding, they would fling up the old story, "you are part nigger." A cruel story started by a criminal who was caught red-handed in crime, and that story has stuck for 100 years.

Santa Ana, Cal., March, 1923



To W. G. Harding
With the greetings and good wishes
of a Kinsman. Harry Harding

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WARREN GAMALIEL HARDING

November 2, 1865

August 2, 1923

HARDING, THE PRESIDENT

WARREN GAMALIEL HARDING, twenty-ninth president of the United States furnishes American history with still another example of a country boy who worked his way unaided from a cabin birthplace to the highest office in the land.

Born of poor parents, Harding made his own way through school and college, fought an up-hill battle to become a successful newspaper publisher, gained leadership in Ohio state politics, became a United States Senator, and finally was elected chief executive of the nation.

Harding was born in a two-room cabin on his grandfather's farm near Blooming Grove, Morrow county, Ohio, November 2, 1865.

His father, George Tryon Harding, was a country physician whose income from his restricted practice was so small that he was forced to work in the fields to support his family.

His mother, Phoebe Elizabeth Dickerson Harding, was a home-loving, hard working woman of deep religious convictions. She was of the Adventist faith.

Both parents came of a long line of American-born ancestors, all hardy pioneers. The elder Hardings were of Scotch descent, while the wife came of Dutch ancestors.

Harding was the eldest of eight children. When he was five the family moved to Calendonía, Ohio, a neighboring village.

As a boy Harding began to show traces of the qualities that later characterized him. He learned to read at four. He was expert at memorizing long prose and poetic passages. He loved to speak and recite on every possible occasion.

But the boy Harding was far from being of the usual genius type. From his childhood he was obliged to work with his elders on the farm.

His studies at the village school frequently were interrupted by long periods of absence during which he helped in clearing land, planting and harvesting.

He grew into a boy of powerful physique and became naturally a leader among his schoolmates. He reveled in outdoor sports.

Thus Harding's boyhood passed. At 14 he was more than

six feet tall—a lanky, ungainly youth.

At this age Harding entered Ohio Central College at Iberia, Ohio. This was but little more than an academy. It has since passed out of existence.

Harding had no funds to pay for his education. But he made it up by hard work during vacations and in spare hours.

He drove teams, worked on a railroad right-of-way, cleared land, split rails and—most important—traveled about the country painting barns. When the White House was being painted in 1921 Harding took a brush from the hands of one of the painters and demonstrated his skill.

It was at college that Harding got his first newspaper experience, in editing a college paper. He also worked in the village print shop.

Harding finished his college course in 1882, when he was 17. In 1884 his family moved to Marion, Ohio, and Harding went too.

At Marion Harding followed three lines of activity—he taught a country school, read law and played a horn in the town band.

But Harding's heart was in newspaper work. In the course of his first year in Marion he acquired the Marion Daily Star.

There are a half dozen stories of how Harding came into possession of the paper, but this one has been told by Harding himself.

The Star, a second rate paper, was about to be sold at sheriff's sale; Harding's father secured control of the paper by settling its debts.

No cash was passed. The debts were settled by trading real estate. Anyway, Harding found himself editor and proprietor of a real daily newspaper.

But not for long. A judgment was entered in court against some of the property Harding's father had traded for the paper, and Warren lost control.

Discouraged, he went to work at \$7.00 a week as a reporter on the Marion Mirror, a democratic paper.

The Blaine-Cleveland presidential campaign was at its height. Harding was an ardent supporter of Blaine, the republican candidate. One day he wore a Blaine hat to work. His democratic boss dismissed him.

Harding sold insurance and went on playing in the band until Cleveland was elected. On election night Harding and Jack

Warwick decided to buy the Star back again.

Harding had \$100. Warwick borrowed \$100. Later Harding bought Warwick out.

Then began a hard struggle. Often Harding had to ask his advertisers to pay in advance to meet the demands of creditors. He used to swing through Marion from store to store soliciting advertisements and culling "local items."

But the fight was won. Today the Star is a gold mine. It has the biggest circulation of any paper in a town of 30,000 in the middle west. It has a wide influence.

Late in the eighties Harding at a dance met Florence Kling, daughter of Amos Kling, banker and the richest man in Marion.

Harding began paying ardent court to Miss Kling, despite the objections of the banker, who told his daughter the struggling young editor "never would amount to anything."

Harding built a home and in 1891 defied Miss Kling's father's injunction and married the banker's daughter. For years Banker Kling would not speak to his son-in-law.

Immediately after her marriage Mrs. Harding went to work in her husband's newspaper office, where she acted as circulation manager and did general office work.

As soon as the Star got on its financial feet Harding began to take an active interest in politics. In 1900 he was elected to the Ohio State Senate and held his seat until 1904.

In that year he was elected lieutenant governor of Ohio. In 1910 he ran for governor, but was defeated.

But Harding had steadily been gaining leadership in state politics. In 1915 he was elected United States senator from Ohio. He served on important foreign relations committees throughout the war.

When the republican national convention was deadlocked at Chicago, Harding was picked as the man best fitted to bring harmony to the different republican factions. He was nominated for the Presidency.

In November, 1920 Harding was elected President by a tremendous majority on a platform opposing the league of nations and pledging efforts to re-establish "normalcy"—a term which Harding coined and which has since been widely used.

Harding's first year in the Presidential chair started under almost crushing handicaps. Industry was crushed, unemployment

was growing, international relations were hopelessly involved.

At the close of Harding's first year the administration pointed to these accomplishments:

Technical state of war with Germany and Austria was brought to an end.

Immigration, which had added to the unemployment burden was restricted by congressional enactment.

A budget system was established and a survey undertaken for re-organization of governmental departments with a view to saving expense.

A federal highway act appropriating \$75,000,000 for federal co-operation with states in building better roads.

Saving of \$86,000,000 was effected in the naval appropriation bill and \$15,000,000 in army expenditures.

But President Harding's one great outstanding achievement in his first year was the calling of the world's disarmament conference at Washington, in November, 1921.

This conference, most unbiased observers believe, removed the threat of war in the Far East and definitely did away with the Anglo-Japanese treaty, by some regarded as a menace to the United States.

Harding was a man of more than unusual height — he was well over six feet tall. His head was large, set on a pair of massive shoulders. His hair was iron grey and thin on top. His eyes were light blue, his face lion-like. His frame was sinewy.

His friends called him "his own greatest taskmaster." He worked hard and long throughout his life. At the White House he started the day at 8 a. m., and rarely finished work before midnight.

His favorite sports were fishing and golf. As president he was known as the best-dressed man in Washington.

Harding, from boyhood to Presidency, was famed as a conciliator and had great ability in drawing together rival factions. He tried to emulate President McKinley in that respect.

His three great heroes were Alexander Hamilton, Abraham Lincoln and Napoleon. He devoured every book he could find about Napoleon and while in Europe visited all the places connected with Napoleon's life.

From his mother he inherited a deep religious nature. He was a trustee of the Trinity Baptist church at Marion.

He was called the greatest handshaker who ever tenanted the White House. Almost any visitor in Washington could get to clasp the President's hand, despite the huge volume of work under which the executive labored.

Mrs. Harding was a quiet woman who took little interest in Washington's social life. Her influence was a giant factor in bringing her husband to success.

"To be a successful man he must be well fed and well groomed," she used to say, and she devoted her life to making Harding both of these.

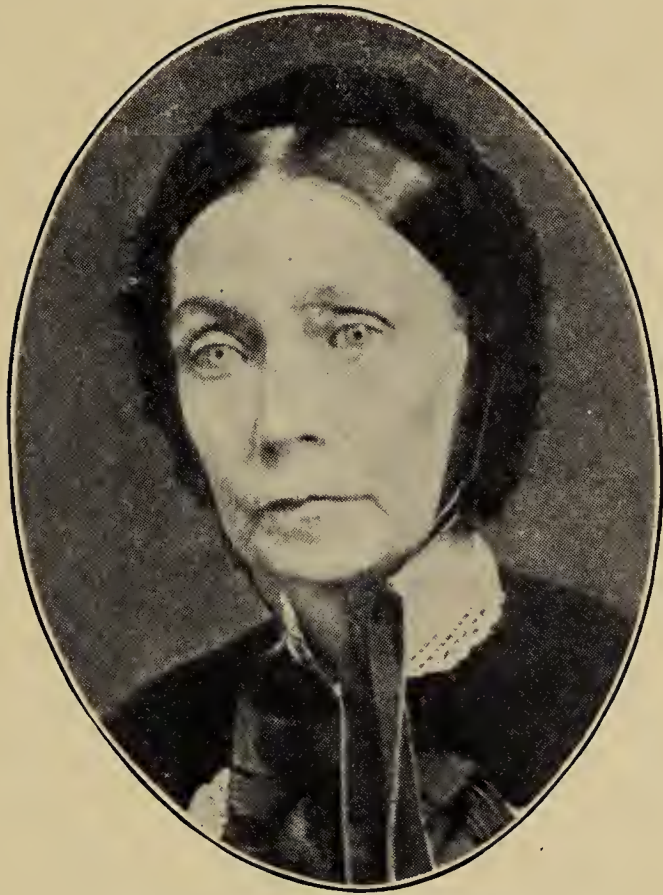
Of Harding an editor whom he employed to operate the Marion Star said "W. G. is the squarest, fairest man in the world. And he's a cracker-jack reporter."

Full appreciation of Warren G. Harding, the President, will not be written today — probably not in this generation — but posterity will weigh his achievements — and they have been many and great — at their full worth.

But the measure of Warren G. Harding, the man, is today beyond all question. That he was a man among men all will concede. None will question his bigness of heart, his greatness of soul. He thought and lived above the little things of life, and yet was so thoroughly human that to know him was to love him, and thus it is that today, while the nation mourns, our people are stunned by the passing of our citizen and friend — greatest and best beloved.— Star, Marion, Ohio.

FAMILY OF AMOS HARDING

Abigail Harding Stearnes	-	-	-	Chap. I
George Tryon Harding	-	-	-	Chap. II
William Tripp Harding	-	-	-	Chap. III
Solomon E. Harding	-	-	-	Chap. IV
Mordecai Rice Harding	-	-	-	Chap. V
Welthy Harding Baker-Wells	-	-	-	Chap. VI
Ebenezer Slocum Harding	-	-	-	Chap. VII
Benjamin Franklin Harding	-	-	-	Chap. VIII
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Abigail Harding Stearnes



Hilah Harding Webster



Mahala Harding Field

CHAPTER I.

ABIGAIL HARDING STEARNES

ABIGAIL (or Abilena), first child of Amos and Phoebe Harding, was born in Luzerne county, Penn., May 14, 1785; died in Berrien county, Mich., Sept. 3, 1861. Married, Dec. 25, 1802, at Clifford, Penn., James Stearnes who was born at Attleboro, Mass., Aug. 15, 1779; died in Morrow county, Ohio, May 5, 1837. The Stearnes family settled in Morrow county, Ohio, in 1822. Had:

- 2—Lydia, b. June 6, 1804; m. James Wells,
- 3—Amos, b. Jan. 8, 1806, d. Feb. 6, 1861.
- 4—Phoebe, b. Jan. 21, 1808, d. June 21, 1861,
- 5—Justus, b. July 8, 1810, d. Sept. 8, 1888,
- 6—William, b. Feb. 13, 1815, d. Oct. 27, 1888,
- 7—Rhoda, b. Feb. 17, 1817, m. Asa Field,
- 8—Mercena, b. May 24, 1819, d. Nov. 28, 1895,
- 9—Welthy, b. Oct. 22, 1821, d. April 17, 1901,
- 10—Silas, b. April 10, 1824, d. Feb. 27, 1853,
- 11—Otis L., b. Feb. 9, 1827, d. May 19, 1907.

3—Amos Stearnes married, 1828, Elizabeth McCool; had:

- 12—John, b. Dec. 3, 1829,
- 13—Mary Ann, b. Sept. 18, 1831,
- 14—James, b. Oct. 22, 1833.
- 15—Atline, b. Feb. 12, 1837,
- 16—Olive, b. June 7, 1840.

4—Phoebe Stearnes married, 1824, Hiram Stevens, son of Joel and Persis Stevens (b. March 28, 1800, d. Feb. 18, 1885); had:

- 17—Joel, b. Feb. 24, 1826, d. Sept., 1868,
- 18—Elizabeth, b. 1830,
- 19—Fannie, b. 1832, d. ab. 1835,
- 20—Abigail, b. Dec. 6, 1833, d. May 20, 1888,
- 21—Martin Van Buren, b. Feb. 2, 1837, d. Oct. 15, 1910,
- 22—Hiram Benton, b. Dec. 3, 1839, d. Jan. 23, 1912,
- 23—Alfred L., b. June 21, 1843,
- 24—Albina, b. June 27, 1846, d. March, 1911,
- 25—James Lewis, b. Oct. 19, 1849, d. Dec., 1908.

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- 5—Justus Stearnes married March 1, 1832, Sarah A. Davis (b. Feb. 1, 1817, d. April 12, 1843); 2nd, July 3, 1843, Eliza Cross (b. March 5, 1820, d. July 28, 1850); 3d, Oct. 10, 1850, Mary Hall (b. Jan. 22, 1822, d. April 16, 1887); 4th, July 17, 1887, Mary Keyes (d. 1890); had:
- 26—Mary Jane, b. July 28, 1833, d. 1920,
 27—Silas David, b. Aug. 9, 1835,
 28—James Hamilton, b. Sept. 8, 1837,
 29—John A., b. July 6, 1839, d. 1920,
 30—Orrin, b. May 9, 1841, d. Oct. 1888,
 31—Mary Eleanor, b. May 23, 1844,
 32—Sarah A., b. Sept. 5, 1845,
 33—Newton Nelson, b. July 12, 1850,
 34—Josiah H., b. Nov. 8, 1851,
 35—Joseph Benton, b. July 11, 1853,
 36—Justus Dawson, b. Sept. 1, 1854,
 37—Charles D., b. June 14, 1856, d. Feb., 1924,
 38—Wilson E., b. Nov. 16, 1863,
 39—Belle,
 40—Laura.
- 6—William Stearnes, married Catherine Closson; had:
- 42—John J., b. Feb., 1841,
 43—Benton R., b. Dec. 1842,
 44—Abilena, b. Feb. 14, 1844,
 45—Charles S., b. Dec. 14, 1846,
 46—George M., b. June 7, 1849,
 47—Phoebe E., b. Sept. 9, 1851.
- 8—Mercena Stearnes, married July 4, 1836, Wm. Hebbert (b. Oct. 20, 1809, d. Sept. 18, 1866); had
- 48—James Stearnes, b. Jan. 7, 1840,
 49—Alice Marinda, b. Dec. 31, 1840,
 50—Ada J., b. Feb. 18, 1843,
 51—Anna Linton, b. Feb. 11, 1845,
 52—Harry Van Horne, b. June 16, 1847,
 53—Hannah Moore, b. April 5, 1849,
 54—Angeline Comstock, b. July 31, 1851,
 55—Hiram Stevens, b. Oct. 26, 1853,
 56—Amy Phoebe, b. Sept. 26, 1855,
 57—Armintha Tamer, b. Sept. 3, 1857,

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- 58—Albina Frances, b. Nov. 28, 1859,
59—Alida Uric, b. Feb. 27, 1862.
- 9—Welthy Stearnes, married May 3, 1839, Wm. R. Herbert
(b. March 5, 1815, d. Oct. 20, 1859); had
60—Robert McCord b. Sept. 3, 1840,
61—Mary Abigail, b. April 9, 1842,
62—Phoebe Mercena, b. Dec. 4, 1844,
63—Elizabeth, b. July 16, 1847,
64—Lucy Ann, b. Aug. 29, 1850,
65—John Risley, b. June 17, 1854,
66—Mary Alice, b. June 24, 1857.
- 10—Silas Stearnes, married Nov. 20, 1845, Zilpha Ann Finel
(b. Aug. 16, 1827, d. April 6, 1896); had:
67—Edward James, b. Aug. 6, 1847,
68—Arvesta Alice, b. July 17, 1850.
- 11—Otis L. Stearnes married, 1st, Nov. 29, 1848, Melissa
Miles (b. April 20, 1830, d. March 3, 1864); 2nd, Nov.
29, 1864, Mary Kerr (b. July 22, 1836, d. June 11, 1868);
3d, Nov. 3, 1868, Charlotte Ann Devoe (b. April 20,
1851, d. 1922); had:
69—Miles M., b. Jan. 21, 1852,
70—Elwina, b. March 14, 1854,
71—Thomas Charles, b. Dec. 25, 1858,
72—Alonzo Lewis, b. Feb. 13, 1861,
73—Mary Melissa, b. Oct. 27, 1863, d. March 3, 1864,
74—Grace Irene (Morley), b. July 25, 1865.
75—Leilla M., b. Aug. 20, 1869,
76—Ella, b. Oct. 12, 1871,
77—Howard E., b. July 28, 1873,
78—Nellie B., b. July 9, 1875,
79—Bertha, b. Oct. 28, 1877,
80—Orrin, b. June 1, 1881,
81—Clyde, b. March 25, 1883,
82—Leigh, b. Feb. 27, 1885,
83—Ota, b. Feb. 2, 1890.
84—Glenn, b. Jan. 30, 1892.

- 17—Joel Stevens married, Ruth Ann Dunlap (d. April 13, 1885); had:
85—Hiram,
86—Arabella (Warner) d. 1920,
87—James Dunlap,
88—Joie, b. Jan. 11, 1869.
- 18—Elizabeth Stevens, married James Doak; had:
89—George,
90—Lorenzo,
91—Leroy, d. ab. 1880,
92—Wilbur, d. 1880,
93—Frances (Kimmerline).
- 20—Abigail Stevens married, 1858, John Morthland (d. 1918)
had:
94—Alonzo, b. May, 1860, d. Dec. 1907,
95—Bertha May, b. March 16, 1868.
- 21—M. Van Buren Stevens married, Sept., 1863, Sarah Davis;
had:
96—May B., b. May 31, 1865.
- 22—Hiram B. Stevens married, Jan. 17, 1864, Mary Jane
Custer; had:
97—Kittie, b. May 3, 1865,
98—Anna Blanche, b. Jan. 28, 1868, d. Aug. 3, 1893,
99—Nellie M. Stevens, M. D., b. Nov. 26, 1872,
100—Pearl E. Stevens, b. May 14, 1878,
101—George Benton, b. Dec. 10, 1884.
- 23—Alfred L. Stevens married, March 20, 1869, Phoebe Dav-
is; had:
102—John L., b. April 1, 1870,
103—Ollie M., b. May 2, 1872,
104—Gilbert B., b. Nov. 5, 1876,
105—Harry B., b. Aug. 16, 1879,
106—Glenn A., b. Jan. 1, 1882,
107—Edwin D., b. Sept. 25, 1890.
- 24—Albina Stevens married Fletcher Douthitt; had:
108—Horace, b. 1865, died young,
109—Fletcher, Jr., died young.

- 110—Edwin Stanton, b. 1870, d. 1913,
111—John Fletcher, b. 1873-4,
112—Mildred, b. Jan. 4, 1885.
- 25—James Lewis Stevens married Rhoda Corey; had:
113—Corine, b. Sept., 1872,
114—Albina (Berkmeyer), b. 1874, d. 1910.
-
- 71—Thomas C. Stearns married, May 29, 1895, Carrie Montgomery; had:
115—Olive, b. April 13, 1896,
116—Leslie, b. June 19, 1902.
- 72—Alonzo Stearnes married, Sept. 5, 1888, Sadie Miller; had:
117—Ivy (Cunningham),
118—Glenn (m. Mayme Hamilton, d. Jan. 14, 1924),
119—Ethel (McMahail), b. April 20, 1889.
120—Albert,
121—Russell,
122—Robert.
- 77—Howard E. Stearnes married, June 30, 1903, Edna Duvall; had:
123—Dorothy, b. Aug. 13, 1906,
124—Hazel, b. Jan. 7, 1909.
- 78—Nellie Stearnes married, June 15, 1889, Henry Sovern; had:
125—Dorris, b. Sept. 26, 1904,
126—Lowell, b. March 10, 1908.
- 80—Orrin Stearnes married, April 21, 1909, Amanda Hasley; had:
127—Leon, b. Sept. 21, 1910,
128—Marjorie, b. Sept. 26, 1916.
- 81—Clyde Stearnes married, Naomi Hubert; had:
129—Mary, b. Dec. 21, 1923.
- 82—Leigh Stearnes married, Dec. 12, 1907, Arthur Prosrus; had:
130—Deloss, b. May 11, 1909,
131—Wayne, b. July 5, 1910.

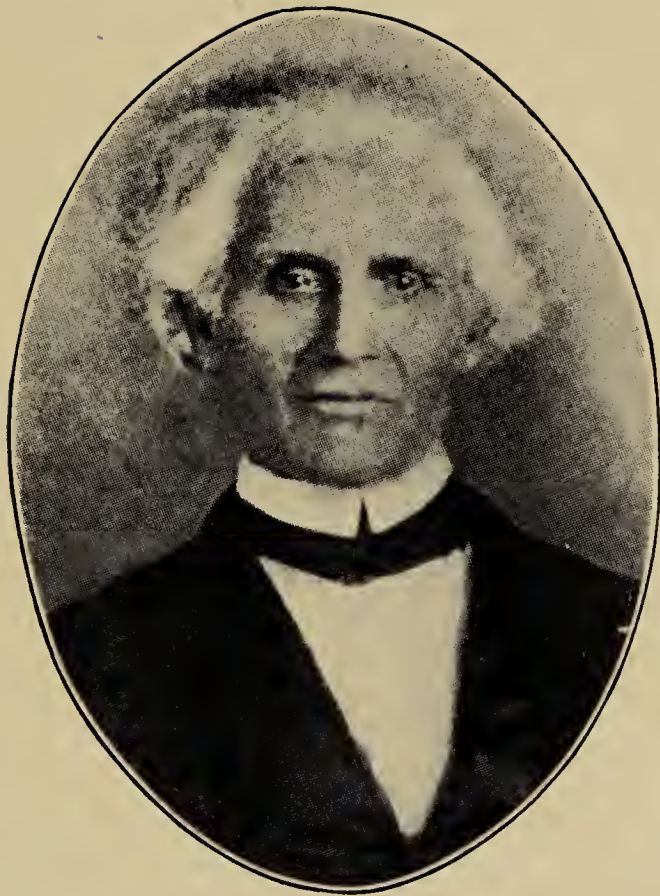
- 85—Hiram Stevens married 1871, Mary Butler, granddaughter of Mordecai Rice Harding, (see No. 26, Chap. V., book II).
- 86—Arabella Stevens married Wm. Warner; had:
 132—Charles,
 133—Gene (Cuthbert).
- 88—Joie Stevens married, 1887, William Barr (d. 1912); had:
 134—Faye, b. April, 1889, d. 1913,
 135—Ailene (Ramsey) b. June 17, 1891.
 136—William, b. Dec. 1892.
-
- 94—Alonzo Morthland married, Dec., 1881, Jennie Talcott;
 had:
 137—Charles, b. Dec. 3, 1882, d. 1895,
 138—John, b. May 3, 1884,
 139—William, b. 1896.
-
- 96—May B. Stevens married, Nov. 15, 1888, Oscar L. Ingels;
 had:
 140—Earl, b. Sept. 15, 1889.
-
- 97—Kittie Stevens married, Feb. 20, 1889, Henry M. Stone;
 had:
 141—Thomas Benton, b. Dec. 2, 1889,
 142—Hazel B., b. June 27, 1892,
 143—Fred L., b. Sept. 28, 1894,
 144—Glenn H., b. June 14, 1897,
 145—Harold, b. June 17, 1896, d. Sept. 26, 1896,
 146—Ethel, b. Dec. 7, 1898,
 147—Myrtle (Neumann), b. Nov. 30, 1901,
 148—Alvin D., b. Jan. 11, 1906.
- 100—Pearl E. Stevens married, May 14, 1902, Dr. Clement Reed; had:
 149—Benton Edward, b. Nov. 5, 1913.
- 101—George B. Stevens married, Dec. 29, 1908, Anna Dickerson; had:
 150—Eleanor Stevens,
 151—Benton Wade Stevens,

- 152—Helen Stevens,
153—Bruce D. Stevens,
154—William Herbert Stevens,
155—Betty Jean Stevens.
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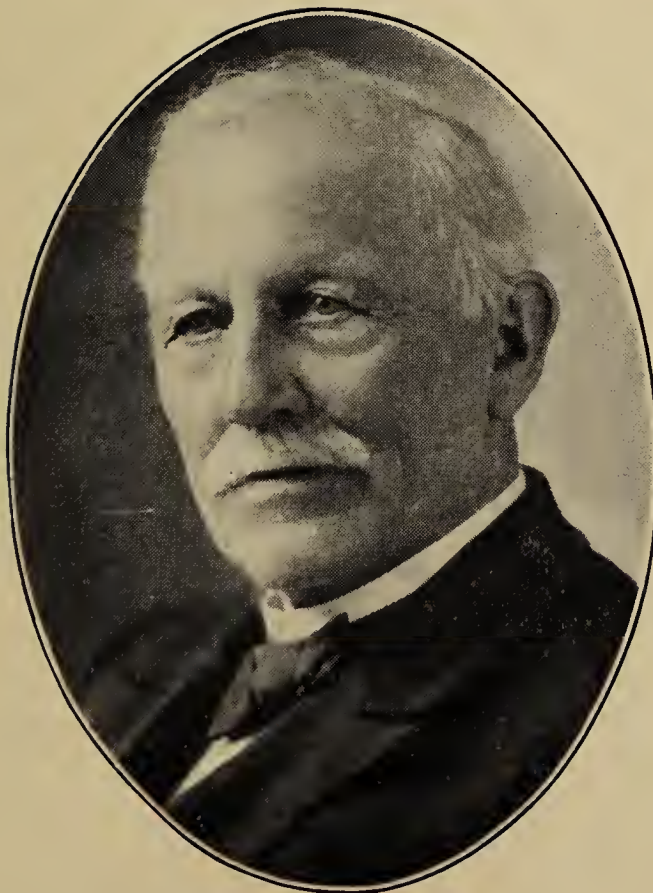
- 103—Ollie M. Stevens married, Jan. 19, 1899, Charles Douglass; had:
156—Mildred (Miller), b. June 27, 1900.
- 104—Gilbert B. Stevens married, June 1, 1924, Helen Lynch; went to Alaska in 1897, and has since made his home there; he is now United States Marshal, 4th District, of Alaska.
- 105—Harry B. Stevens married, Dec. 24, 1901, Alma Davis; had:
157—Ruth, b. March 23, 1903.
- 106—Glenn A. Stevens married, Jan. 16, 1908, Emily Conger; had:
158—Jay, b. May 26, 1911,
159—Mary, b. Feb. 16, 1914.
- 107—Edwin D. Stevens married, Ruth Court; had:
160—Courtney.
-

- 111—John Fletcher Douthitt married, Anna Mitchner; had:
161—Fletcher, Jr.,
162—Joseph.
- 112—Mildred Douthitt married, John Barden; had:
163—John Barden, Jr.,
164—Albina Barden.
-

- 115—Olive Stearnes married, Oct. 6, 1915, Samuel McClelland; had:
165—Howard, b. June 18, 1918,
166—Hubert, b. June 18, 1918.



George Tryon Harding



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CHAPTER II.

GEORGE TRYON HARDING

GEORGE TRYON HARDING, the third child and eldest son of Amos and Phoebe Tripp Harding was born June 15, 1790. His supposed birthplace is Luzerne county, Pa., but Dr. Geo. T. Harding, Sr., says he was told by his grandfather that he was born in Connecticut while his parents were temporarily residing there. He died at Blooming Grove, Ohio, January 9, 1860.

On May 29, 1812, he married Anna (or Ella) Roberts at Clifford, Pa., and to this union two children were born. She died July 20, 1815, shortly after the birth of her second child.

On May 1, 1816, he was married to Elizabeth Madison (b. July 26, 1800). The family came from Susquehanna county, Pa., to Richland county, Ohio, in 1822, coming by way of the settlements at Cleveland, Ohio, and stopped there a few days. He had often told of being offered land on the city site at \$10 per acre, but not liking the land he came on to the place entered or purchased by his father and some of his brothers two years previous.

Pioneer life deprived him of a good education and made it impossible to give his children that advantage, but he was a great reader and a devoted adherent and supporter of the church, and always urged his children to encourage their sons and daughters to a higher education. He was liberal and kind to others and was never happier than when his hospitable table was surrounded by his friends.

Physically he was a man of slender build, about 5 ft., 8 in. in height, and weighed about 140 pounds. He lies buried beside his father and son Charles in the Blooming Grove cemetery.

Elizabeth Madison Harding was noted for her kindly, Christian character and as a loving mother and step mother, proving herself a real mother to the two little girls whom she raised as her own. "Aunt Betsy" was the peacemaker to whom many of the church-member disputes were referred, and most of these she settled after prayer with the disputants. In her old age she told her grandchildren stories of her giving neighborly aid in the home of her husband at the time of his wife's death, her marriage and

bringing the little children to Ohio, her experiences with the Indians, etc. She died Feb. 8, 1886, at the home of her son Charles' widow, Mary Ann Crawford, at Blooming Grove, Ohio.

Children of George Tryon Harding were:

- 1—Hulda, b. May 7, 1813, d. May 27, 1898,
- 2—Phoebe Ann, b. May 11, 1815, d. 1898,
- 3—Wm. Oliver Perry, b. June 20, 1818, d. March 28, 1901,
- 4—Charles Alexander, b. April 8, 1820, d. April 3, 1878.
- 5—Mary Miranda, b. Jan. 30, 1822, d. Sept. 25, 1888.

1—Hulda Harding married, 1831, Abraham Logan; had:

- 6—Anna M. Logan,
- 7—Abraham Y. Logan,
- 8—Albert E. Logan,
- 9—Elmsat E. Logan,
- 10—Levi T. Logan,
- 11—Edward P. Logan,
- 12—Sarah E. Logan,
- 13—Albina B. Logan,
- 14—Clara M. Logan,
- 15—Henry C. Logan.

2—Phoebe Ann Harding married, 1833, William Boyce; had

- 16—James Boyce,
- 17—George Tryon, b. Jan. 30, 1836, d. May 3, 1908,
- 18—John Boyce,
- 19—Lafayette Boyce,
- 20—Eliza Boyce,
- 21—Marion Boyce,
- 22—Simon P. Boyce,
- 23—Hiram Boyce
- 24—Eva Boyce,
- 25—Isabenda Boyce.

3—Wm. Oliver Perry Harding married, 1839, Isabenda McGowan (b. Dec. 27, 1815, d. April 28, 1898); had:

- 26—Amos T., b. June 3, 1840, d. Feb. 9, 1922,
- 27—Harriet R.,
- 28—Mary Adaline, b. Feb. 14, 1845,
- 29—Augustus W., b. Dec. 16, 1846,

-
- 30—Lorenzo D., b. March 13, 1849, d. 1912,
31—Amanda I., b. Oct. 13, 1854.
- 4—Charles Alexander Harding married, May 28, 1840,
Mary Ann Crawford (b. Aug. 26, 1823, d. March 11,
1895); had:
32—Phoebe A., b. April 21, 1841, d. April 8, 1912,
33—Sophia, b. Nov. 1, 1842, d. Nov. 17, 1909,
34—George Tryon, b. June 12, 1844,
35—Elizabeth, b. April 27, 1846, d. Sept. 2, 1852,
36—Mary Matilda, b. June 30, 1849, d. March, 1850,
37—Lydia Frances, b. March 14, 1852,
38—Margaret Caroline,
39—Catherine, b. 1857, d. same,
40—Sarah Eleanor, b. Aug. 30, 1858.
- 5—Mary Marinda Harding married, May 20, 1840, Mar-
cus W. Bennett (b. July 11, 1817); had:
41—Charles W., b. Sept. 1, 1841,
42—John Edwin, b. May 30, 1844,
43—Chauncey H., b. March 12, 1847,
44—Elizabeth A. (Jacobs), b. April 4, 1850,
45—William Perry, b. April 8, 1854,
46—Marcus W., b. May 3, 1857,
47—Mary Katherine, b. Sept. 19, 1859,
48—Orlando M., b. March 26, 1864.
-
- 17—George Tryon Boyce married, Aug. 15, 1852, Mary
Ann Flowers (b. March 30, 1833, d. May 1, 1916); had:
49—Mary Elizabeth, (Allison), b. Sept. 2, 1853,
50—Lavina, b. March 3, 1855, d. March 29, 1876,
51—William W., b. Nov. 24, 1858,
52—W. L. Boyce, b. January 8, 1861,
53—S. L. Boyce, b. March 20, 1863,
54—George, b. April 15, 1865,
55—Henrietta E. (Babcock), b. May 16, 1868,
56—Serena Bell (Phiscator), b. June 14, 1870.
-
- 26—Amos Tryon Harding married, Feb. 9, 1865, Elizabeth
Snyder; 2nd, Mollie Jane Day; had
60—Forest Harding,

- 61—Dora Harding,
 - 62—Mark Harding,
 - 63—Clark Harding,
 - 64—Hattie Harding,
- 27—Harriet R. Harding married, Henry E. Dudley; had:
- 65—Ord L. Dudley,
 - 66—Carrie I. Dudley.
- 28—Mary Adaline Harding married, Oct. 7, 1868, John A. Chambers; had:
- 67—Dennis P., b. July 31, 1869,
 - 68—Perry Chambers,
 - 69—Isabenda Chambers.
- 29—Augustus W. Harding married, Lavina Goff; had:
- 70—Mallie (Green),
 - 71—Murtie (Mitchell),
 - 72—Bernice (Harding),
 - 73—Claude,
 - 74—Gifford,
 - 75—Jennie,
 - 76—Anna.
- 30—Lorenzo Dow Harding married, Dec. 25, 1872, Lucy Jane Flint (d. Jan., 1924); had:
- 77—Lorenzo O., b. Aug. 24, 1875,
 - 78—Fred C., b. March 8, 1877,
 - 79—Alta, b. Dec. 9, 1880
 - 80—Lois Edna, b. Jan. 8, 1885.
- 31—Amanda I. Harding married, George Edwards; had:
- 81—Jay Edwards,
 - 82—Perry Edwards,
 - 83—Donna Edwards,
 - 84—Addie Edwards,
 - 85—Hazel Edwards,
 - 86—Georgia Edwards.
-
- 32—Phoebe A. Harding married, October, 1860, Thos. Mitchell; had:
- 87—Minnie (died in infancy).

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- 33—Sophia Harding married, Dec. 18, 1858, Simon Ayres Numbers (member of C. D., 96th Ohio Vol. Inft.) d. Feb. 1882; married 2nd, Daniel V. Miller (d. July 4, 1892); had:
- 88—Charles Tryon Numbers, b. May 1, 1861,
 - 89—Maude E. Numbers, b. Dec. 25, 1869,
 - 90—Guy Numbers, b. April 9, 1875.
- 34—George Tryon Harding, M. D., married, May 7, 1864, Phoebe E. Dickerson (b. 1843, d. May 20, 1910); had:
- 91—Warren Gamaliel, b. Nov. 2, 1865, d. Aug. 2, 1923,
 - 92—Charity M., b. March 1, 1867,
 - 93—Mary Clarissa, b. April 26, 1868, d. Oct. 29, 1913,
 - 94—Eleanor P., b. Nov. 11, 1872, d. Nov. 9, 1878,
 - 95—Charles Alexander, b. Apr. 8, 1874, d. Nov. 9, 1878,
 - 96—Abigail Victoria, b. May 31, 1876
 - 97—George Tryon, Jr., b. March 11, 1878,
 - 98—Phoebe Caroline, b. Oct. 21, 1879.
- 37—Lydia Frances Harding married, Oct. 3, 1871, -----
Wyant; had:
- 99—Maude E. (Ludington) b. Oct. 3, 1872, d. April 8, 1909,
 - 100—Pearl C., (Franks), b. Nov. 12, 1874, d. July 2, 1897,
 - 101—Charles Harding, b. Dec. 4, 1876.
- 38—Margaret Caroline Harding married, Nov. 30, 1872, Daniel Marshman; had:
- 102—John Marshman,
 - 103—Charles Marshman,
 - 104—Benjamin Marshman,
 - 105—Warren G., b. May 12, 1894.
- 40—Sarah Eleanor Harding married, Dec. 25, 1874, Albert Wheeler Dickerson (d. 1919); had:
- 106—Ada, b. July 5, 1876.
-
- 41—Charles W. Bennett married, Ida Hamlin; served in Civil War in Mich. Volunteers; had:
- 107—Effie,
 - 108—Ettie,

- 109—Harold M.
110—Mary,
111—Edwin,
- 42—John E. Bennett married Samantha Bowls; he also served in Civil War; had:
112—Elton,
113—Minnie (Tarbett).
- 43—Chauncey H. Bennett married, Sept. 25, 1872, Charity Ellen Dickerson; had:
114—Grace,
115—Perry Clifton,
116—Jennie,
117—Clara A. (Kroegel).
- 45—William P. Bennett married Emma Barney; had:
118—John B. Bennett.
- 46—Marcus W. Bennett married, Nellie Bush; had:
119—Rubie Bennett (Richards),
120—Gertrude Bennett (Gillespie),
121—Bessie Bennett.
- 47—Mary Katherine Bennett married, 1879, Warren Barr; had:
122—Marcus Earl Barr (m. Carrie Cuthbert),
123—Clarence Dale Barr,
124—Warren Ernest Barr (m. Mary Nixon),
125—Maude E. Barr,
126—Fred E. Barr (m. Ida Howard).
- 48—Orlando M. Bennett married, April 23, 1885, Sarah Kanabenhau; had:
127—Fred W. Bennett,
128—Florence Bennett (Cooper).
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- 55—Henrietta E. Boyce married, E. S. Babcock; had:
Ray Babcock, b. Feb. 12, 1891,
Dr. Lloyd Babcock (m. Winnie Clark),
Orville Babcock, b. May 6, 1894, (m. Ethel Gleason),
Mildred Babcock (Smith), b. March 30, 1898.

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- 56—Serena Bell Boyce married, Aug. 15, 1888, George Phiscator (b. Dec. 20, 1863, d. Oct. 29, 1907); had:
129—Effie May Phiscator, b. June 25, 1890,
130—Clyde Phiscator (Raybuck), b. Dec. 20, 1897,
131—Clarence Phiscator b. April 8, 1903.

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- 60—Forest Harding married -----; had:
132—Mabel A. Harding,
133—Ruth J. Harding,
134—W. P. Harding,
135—Eula G. Harding,
136—Leroy W. Harding.

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- 67—Dennis P. Chambers married, 1st, Blanche Huffman;
2nd, Laura Newman; had:
137—Blanche Chambers,
138—Walter Chambers,
139—Jessie Chambers,
140—Irene Chambers,
Alice Chambers,
Willard Chambers.

- 69—Isabenda Chambers married Foster M. Cramer; had:
141—Cecil Emerson Cramer,
142—John Merrill Odell Cramer,
143—Margaret Cramer.

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- 78—Fred C. Harding married, Sept. 30, 1903, Mollie May Smith (b. Feb. 11, 1882); had:
144—Arline, b. Aug. 18, 1904,
145—Georgia, b. March 14, 1907,
146—Donald Flint, Sept. 21, 1914,
147—Richard, b. Aug. 8, 1919.

- 79—Alta Harding married, Nov. 14, 1900, E. E. Copeland;
had:
148—Marjorie Alice, b. Aug. 2, 1903,
149—Eleanor Rosalie, b. July 14, 1906.

- 80—Lois Harding, married Nov. 24, 1909, Harry Erickson;
had:
150—James Ozro, b. April 21, 1920.

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- 88—Charles Tryon Numbers married, 1878, Florence Finney; had:
 151—Dwyght M. Numbers,
 152—Bert Numbers,
 153—Nellie G. Numbers,
 154—Lelah Numbers,
 155—Hazel Numbers.
- 90—Maude E. Numbers married, Feb. 22, 1888, Charles E. C. Evans; had:
 156—Travis A. Evans, b. Jan. 23, 1892,
 157—Reginal A., b. Jan. 31, 1894, d. Jan. 23, 1919,
 158—Corene C. (Riggs), b. Feb. 19, 1899.
-
- 91—Warren Gamaliel Harding married, July 8, 1891, Florence Mabel Kling (b. Aug. 15, 1860, d. Nov. 20, 1924). Editor; statesman; 29th President of the United States; died at San Francisco, Cal., August 2, 1923.
- 92—Charity M. Harding married, June 23, 1886, Elton E. Remsberg; had:
 159—Nelle Marie, b. June 23, 1890,
 160—Edgar Harding, b. July 11, 1892, d. Aug. 16, 1894,
 161—Helen Lucile (Biggs), b. Feb. 8, 1895,
 162—Katherine Elizabeth, b. Feb. 22, 1902.
- 93—Mary Clarissa Harding, for many years and until her death, Oct. 29, 1913, teacher in the Ohio School for the Blind at Columbus, Ohio.
- 96—Abigail Victoria Harding married, December 18, 1924, Ralph T. Lewis.
- 97—George Tryon Harding, Jr., married, July 23, 1903, Elsie Weaver (b. 1881); had:
 163—George Tryon III, b. May 27, 1904,
 164—Warren G., b. Nov. 2, 1905,
 165—Ruth V., b. April 5, 1910,
 166—Charles W., b. Nov. 22, 1915,
 167—Mary Elizabeth, b. May 17, 1919.

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- 98—Phoebe Caroline Harding married, Aug. 5, 1903, Heber H. Votaw; was sent to India and Burmah with her husband as a missionary of the Seventh Day Adventist Church, remaining there about ten years.
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- 102—John Marshman married, Aug. 15, 1903, Jeannette Perry; had:
168—Margarite Darice, b. Jan. 14, 1907,
169—Robert Perry, b. Oct. 22, 1908,
170—Kathryn Elise, b. Aug. 12, 1911,
171—Alice Afton, b. Aug. 19, 1913,
172—John Harding, b. July 17, 1918.
- 105—Warren B. Marshman married, Jan. 22, 1911, Edith Klawonn; had:
173—Preston Leroy, b. Aug. 2, 1912.
-
- 106—Ada Dickerson married, Oct. 12, 1888, J. Harry Denman; had:
174—Benton, b. Oct. 31, 1899 (m. Helen Laughlin),
175—Richard Albert, b. Feb. 7, 1910.
-
- 113—Minnie Bennett married Emmet Tarbett; had:
176—Lucile Tarbett.
- 117—Clara A. Bennett married Albert A. Kroegel; had:
177—Betty Jean Kroegel.
- 118—John B. Bennett married Marion Horton; had:
178—Isabelle Bennett.
- 120—Gertrude Bennett married Alex Gillispie; had:
179—Jack Gillispie,
180—Natalie Gillispie.
-
- 123—Clarence Dale Barr married Stella Donaldson; had
181—Clarence Dale Barr, Jr.,
182—Thomas Warren Barr.
- 125—Maude M. Barr married Oscar Phalen; had:
183—Warren Dale Phalen,
184—Neiles Phalen,
185—Charles Phalen.

127—Fred W. Bennett married Radna Uncnt; had:

186—Ross Bennett,

187—Helen Bennett,

188—Ruth Bennett,

128—Florence Bennett married Orla Cooper; had:

189—Gertrude Cooper,

190—Ruth Cooper,

191—Sarah Margaret Cooper.

4—CHARLES ALEXANDER HARDING was born in Susquehanna county, Pa., April 8, 1820; came with his parents to Richland county, Ohio, in 1822; married Mary Ann Crawford, a daughter of Joshua and Sophia Crawford, May 28, 1840; was an active member of the Baptist Church and both he and his wife were well known for their hospitality at times of Baptist Assemblies, as they were, also, as entertainers to their friends at all times. He was highly regarded for his gentle nature and kindly manner. He was a successful farmer and became the owner of a large tract of land in the vicinity of Blooming Grove. The land for the Baptist church and school house at Blooming Grove was originally given or sold by him. He died April 3d, 1878, and was buried in the Blooming Grove Cemetery.

34—GEORGE TRYON HARDING was born and raised at Blooming Grove; received his education in the public and private schools of the vicinity, including the Lexington Academy and Ohio Central College at Iberia. Studied medicine with Dr. Joseph McFarland at Blooming Grove and Dr. Chas. F. Biggar at Cleveland; graduated from the Cleveland Homeopathic College in 1873. In August, 1862, he volunteered as a member of 96th Ohio Volunteer Inft. In May, 1864, he again volunteered and joined Co. 1, 136th Ohio Vol. Inft. Married May 7, 1864, at Galion, Ohio, Phoebe Elizabeth Dickerson, daughter of Isaac Haines Dickerson and Charity Malvina (Van Kirk) Dickerson, who came to Morrow county, Ohio in 1832 from Washington county, Pa. Moved to

Caledonia, Ohio, in 1871 and began the practice of medicine, continuing until 1882 when the family moved to Marion, Ohio, where he now (1925) resides. Was always a staunch Republican in politics, a member of the Baptist church, and in 1884 served as Surgeon General of the National G. A. R. organization. August 11, 1921, he was married to Alice Severns of Marion.

91—WARREN GAMALIEL HARDING was born on the old home farm near Blooming Grove; was educated in the district schools of Morrow county and at Ohio Central College at Iberia; entered newspaper business at Marion in 1884, becoming editor and proprietor of the Marion Daily Star. Entered politics and was elected as a member of the Ohio State Senate 1900-1904; lieutenant governor of Ohio 1904-1906; in 1914 was elected United States Senator from Ohio for the term 1915-1921; at Republican National Convention in 1920 was nominated for President of the United States; at national election, November, 1920, was elected President by a plurality of nearly seven million votes over James J. Cox, his Democratic opponent, securing the electoral votes of 37 of the 48 states. Inaugurated March 4th, 1921; died at San Francisco, August 2, 1923, when returning with party from trip to Alaska. Interred at Marion, Ohio.

97—GEORGE TRYON HARDING, JR., born at Caledonia, Ohio, attended local school and high school at Marion, graduating from the latter with class of 1895; attended Battle Creek College 1895-96; took his medical studies at the University of Michigan, graduating therefrom in 1900; served on staff Columbus State Hospital 1900 to 1905, and as assistant superintendent during the last three years of that period; became interested in diseases of nervous system and served as instructor and lecturer in the Ohio State University Medical School, neurologist to numerous hospitals at Columbus, and established the Columbus Rural Rest Home for sufferers from nervous diseases. Now resides with his family at Worthington, Ohio.

THE MADISON FAMILY

(Copy of a letter received by Maj. A. J. Harding)

Columbus, Ohio, May 14, 1881.

Maj. A. J. Harding,
Chicago, Ill.

My Dear Sir:

Your letter, received by the hand of Major Watkins, is before me. As you have surmised, the Elizabeth Madison who married G. Tryon Harding in 1816 was my sister — and my only sister. She was about two years older than I, and was born July 26, 1800, while I was born in 1803, and am now in my 78th year. So far as I know I am the only surviving member of this branch of the Madison family, as I have no sons and I was the only son of my father.

Our father was William Madison and our mother was Mary Hooper. Father was born in 1776 and died in 1849. He served as a soldier during the Mexican war and was always called Captain, although I have no record of his rank and but little of his service.

Our grandfather was John Madison, a Baptist minister, who was born in Virginia, but so far as I have learned he did not long remain at any one place, perhaps from the fact that he was an itinerant preacher, or "circuit rider" in those early days. I have heard my father say that his father organized the first Baptist Church in Susquehanna county, Penn., where we used to attend, and where both my sister and myself were married.

Regarding the early history of the family which you request, I can give it only as I can remember being told by my father, with my memory refreshed to a certain extent from dates which I found recorded in an old family Bible which belonged in the family of my grandfather.

John Madison and his wife, who was Abigail Foote, came from England to America in 1670 and settled in Virginia. They had three children, one of them Thomas, an only son, born in 1642, married Rachel Colton in 1663, and came to America with his father in 1670, and died in 1698. They had a son Joseph who was born in 1672, married Sarah Hall in 1693, and died in 1763. They also had a son Joseph who was born in 1701, married

Eliza Stone in 1720, and died in 1773. Their son was Rev. John Madison, my grandfather, who was born in 1729, married Jane Giddings in 1750, and died in 1813.

I have heard my father say that in olden times the family was connected in some way with the family from which came President Madison, but I have never learned anything that would verify this and never cared to investigate it.

As for myself, since you so kindly ask, I am all alone now. My good wife died ten years ago, and the only child we had, a daughter, died seven years ago. I conduct a small grocery store in the outlying district of the city, which affords me sufficient revenue upon which to live.

Should you visit our beautiful city at any time I would be very much pleased to have you call on me.

With the assurance of my most profound respect, I am,

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Thomas Madison.

THE HARDING FARMS

AMOS HARDING purchased from John Maxwell, of Richland county, Ohio, (or the latter assigned to the former), the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 11, Twp. 19, R. 11, containing 160 acres, at \$2.00 per acre; on Oct. 4, 1815, Amos Harding, grantee, paid the first installment on the purchase price amounting to \$80.00, and on July 18, 1823, he had paid for the land and his patent was dated Sept. 8, 1824.

Salmon E. Harding was assigned by Charles Pond of Richland county, Ohio, the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ section, first payment being made July 22, 1817, final payment Aug. 11, 1824, and patent was dated June 1, 1825.

Hiram Stevens purchased from the government on July 12, 1824, the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the same section for \$100.00; patent dated April 22, 1825.

Amos G. Webster and Amos Stearns were named as assignees for the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ which was finally certified Jan. 2, 1830.

Joseph Baker purchased the E $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ section on Sept. 12, 1823.

George Tryon Harding, on Sept. 17, 1831, purchased from the government for \$80.00, the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 12, Twp. 19, Range 20.

Amos Harding on March 6, 1826, deeded to Ebenezer S. Harding the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of his original purchase, and on the same date deeded the E $\frac{1}{2}$ to George Tryon Harding. On the same date E. S. Harding sold a portion of his part to George Tryon Harding, and on Sept. 5, 1827, sold the remainder of the W $\frac{1}{2}$ to Tryon. On these deeds E. S. Harding's wife signed her name "Polly."

Elizabeth Harding, widow of George Tryon Harding, on March 19, 1860, deeded the Harding farm to Wm. O. P. Harding, and on March 23, 1860, W. O. P. and Isabenda Harding conveyed to Chas. A. Harding for a consideration of \$2200.00 all their interest in the land except a strip to the north side of the quarter section.

As previously noted, George Tryon Harding took over in 1826-27-31, the land that had been entered by his father. He also purchased additional land near by. Most of this original farm was left to his son, Charles Alexander Harding, who also added

some acreage to the east which had been purchased by Dr. George T. Harding. From 1899 to 1923 this farm was in the hands of Lock Erickson and his son Harry, the wife of the latter being a granddaughter of W. O. P. Harding, a son of George Tryon.

As the family of George Tryon Harding grew up he built a large two-story frame house to the west of the log cabin he had first built. His son Charles occupied the cabin for a few years and it was there that Dr. G. T. Harding was born. In 1856, when ready to turn the farm over to his son Charles, he built a frame house of small dimensions on the site of the old cabin, and Charles took up his residence in the big house with his large family. After the death of her husband in 1860, Elizabeth Harding made her home with her son Charles, while the children of the latter occupied the grandfather's house for a while.

It was there that Dr. George Tryon Harding started his home life with his young wife after his return from the Civil War service in 1864, and it was there that Warren Gamaliel Harding, twenty-ninth President of the United States was born November 2, 1865.

On April 1, 1923, Warren G. Harding purchased the old farm of his grandfather, as well as the old Finney farm adjoining it on the south, hoping after his retirement to enjoy comfort and peace in the home of his childhood. In June, 1923, he deeded the farms to his brother, George Tryon, Jr., and to his nephews George Tryon III, Warren G., and Charles W. Harding, who are now operating it. In the deed he expressed the hope that it would be always kept in the Harding family.



William Tripp and Mary Otis Harding

CHAPTER III.

WILLIAM TRIPP HARDING

WILLIAM TRIPP HARDING was born in Luzerne county, Pa., July 15, 1792; died at Buchanan, Michigan, February 8, 1884.

In the year 1811 he married Minerva Martindale who, a few years later, left their home on horseback with a bundle of wool to go to a carding mill a few miles distant. The road was through woods and over a mountain infested with wild animals and at times by Indians. She was never seen or heard of again but some torn fragments of her clothing were found in the woods.

Decemeber 8th, 1823, he was married to Mary Otis, (b. March 31, 1787, died Dec. 4, 1865). In 1820 he came to Richland county, Ohio, and in 1835 removed to LaPorte county, Ind. The family later removed to Buchanan, Mich. Had:

- 1—Eldridge Thomas, b. Mch. 14, 1824, d. Sept. 22, 1888,
- 2—Marilla Jane, b. April 12, 1826, d. Sept. 3, 1835,
- 3—Ann Eliza Janette, b. Feb. 22, 1828, d. Nov. 28, 1889,
- 4—Finley Rice, b. Nov. 23, 1829, d. Dec. 22, 1914,
- 5—Lois Hammi, b. March 27, 1831, d. June 21, 1906.

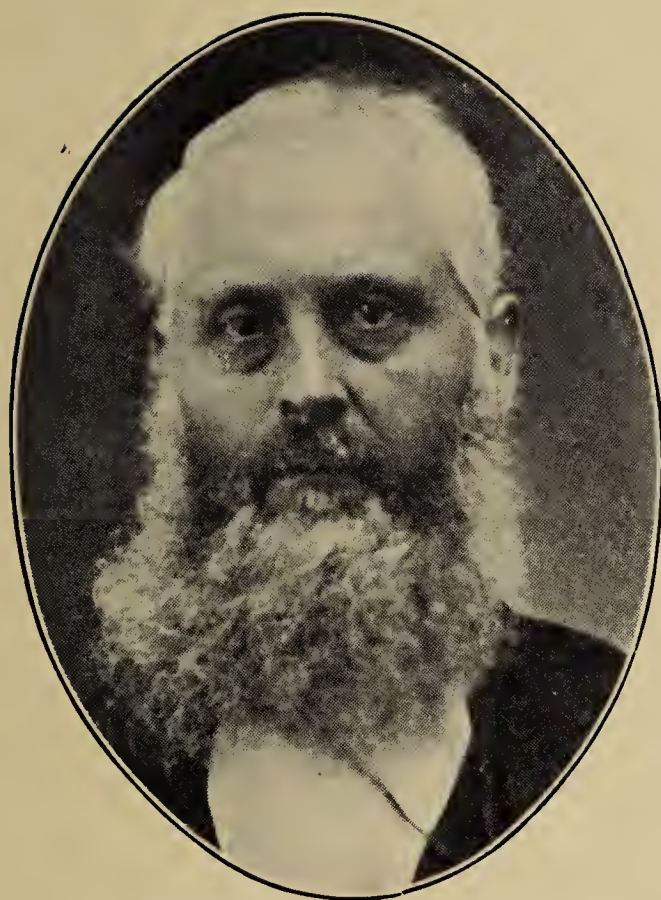
1—Eldridge T. Harding, M. D., married April 8, 1849, Martha I. Willey (b. Jan. 22, 1830, d. March 25, 1903); had:

- 6—Joseph, b. Jan. 4, 1850, d. Feb. 11, 1850,
- 7—Mary Marena, b. Feb. 14, 1851, d. March 14, 1853,
- 8—Sarah Jane, b. Dec. 24, 1853, d. Feb. 1, 1856.
- 9—Charles Fremont, b. July 29, 1856,
- 10—Jessie A., b. April 1, 1858,
- 11—William F., b. Sept. 18, 1860,
- 12—Carrie E., b. Aug. 24, 1863,
- 13—Eva Lois, b. Dec. 26, 1869.

3—Ann Eliza Janette Harding married, Feb. 22, 1848, Francis Knight (b. Oct. 9, 1820, d. Jan. 17, 1893); had:

- 14—Charles Carol, b. Dec. 1, 1848, d. Aug. 21, 1850,
- 15—William Merrit, b. Sept. 20, 1851, d. Oct. 30, 1854,

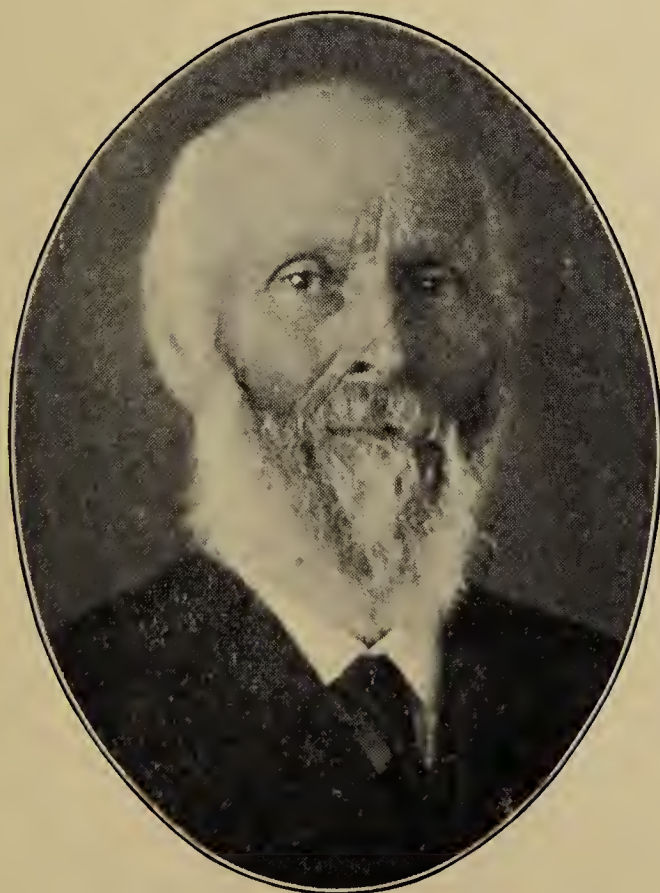
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- 16—Francis Henry, b. Dec. 12, 1853, d. Oct. 6, 1874,
 17—Charles Mortimer, b. Jan. 4, 1862,
 18—Mary Ellener, b. Sept. 17, 1865, d. Jan. 17, 1872.
- 4—Finley Rice Harding married, Dec. 23, 1851, Martha Concannon (d. Aug. 3, 1903); had:
 19—Rosa Belle, b. 1852, d. Aug. 29, 1854,
 20—Ellen G., b. July 15, 1854,
 21—Jeanette, b. March 31, 1856, d. Aug. 1, 1862,
 22—Nancy A., b. Nov. 13, 1857, d. March 9, 1924,
 23—Otis,
 24—George Finley (m. Minnie May Harding 32-10),
 25—Jennie.
- 5—Lois H. Harding married Aug. 19, 1847, Abe Dennet;
 2nd, Dec. 9, 1864, George Dunbar; had, by second husband:
 26—Mary (Sweet),
 27—Grove.
-
- 9—Charles F. Harding married, 1878, Della Breece; had:
 28—Pearl May, b. May 1, 1879,
 29—Claude Eggleston, b. Nov. 10, 1880,
 30—Harry Eldridge, b. Oct., 1885,
 31—Jessie Opal, b. March 31, 1896.
- 10—Jessie A. Harding married, Sept. 26, 1883, John Abel Grant; had:
 32—William Hale, b. Oct. 8, 1885,
 33—George Abel, b. June 13, 1891, d. July 19, 1891.
- 11—William W. Harding married, Aug. 23, 1897, Juddie Levie; had:
 34—William Waldorf, b. Dec. 15, 1904,
 35—Richard Grant, b. July 26, 1909.
- 12—Carrie Eliza Harding married, June 22, 1886, James S. Tourne; had:
 36—James Campbell, b. July 28, 1887,
 37—Philip Harding, b. Oct. 9, 1889,
 38—Joseph Clark, b. March 7, 1894.



Eldridge T. Harding



Eliza Harding Knight



Finley Rice Harding



Lois Harding Dunbar

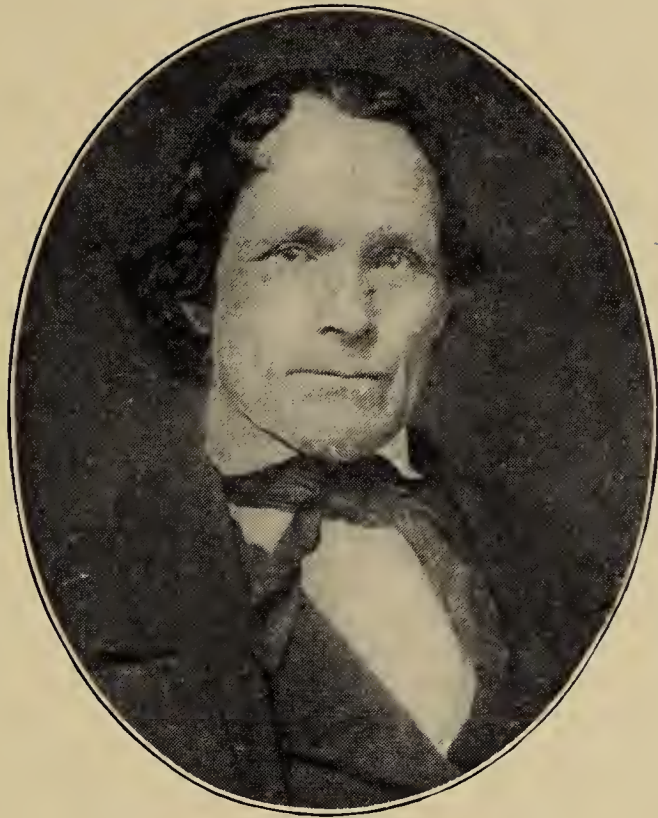
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- 13—Eva Lois Harding married, March 21, 1891, Dr. T. F. Tynes; 2nd, Nov. 2, 1920, George Tibbits; had:
39—Glenn F. Tynes, b. March, 1892.
-
- 17—Charles M. Knight married, April 27, 1889, Jennie A. Schultz; had:
40—Francis Archibald, b. April 7, 1891.
-
- 20—Ellen G. Harding married, March 6, 1873, Corydon A. Hallock (b. July 8, 1854); had:
41—Mabel Rose (Hutchins), b. Feb. 11, 1879,
42—Eugene, b. Aug. 2, 1886.
- 22—Nancy A. Harding married, Dec. 4, 1879, Robert Haslett (b. Nov. 4, 1851); had:
43—Andrew Glenn, b. Nov. 27, 1880.
- 25—Jennie Harding married, Nov. 21, 1888, Fred'k W. Howe; had:
44—Charles Finley, b. Aug. 21, 1889,
45—Marjorie Gertrude, b. Sept. 3, 1893,
46—Frederick Harding, b. Dec. 20, 1897,
47—Jennie Maybell, b. April 20, 1905.
-
- 28—Pearl May Harding married ----- Weston; 2nd, Alfred Bradford; had:
48—Floyd Weston.
- 29—Claude E. Harding married, 1916, Emma Wirgovito; had:
49—Dorothy Pearl,
50—Francis Dell.
- 30—Harry E. Harding married Oct. 23, 1904, Caroline Fuhrberg; had:
51—Ruby Bell, b. Feb. 10, 1906,
52—Dorothy Dell, b. Oct. 20, 1913,
53—Maxine Phyllis, b. Sept. 17, 1923.
- 31—Jessie Opal Harding married, 1915, Philip S. Thomas; had:
54—Melva Blossom, b. Aug. 13, 1916.

- 32—William Hale Grant married, Aug. 29, 1903, Nellie Nichols; had:
55—Samuel Abel, b. April 14, 1904,
56—Robert Jackson Hale, b. April 29, 1906,
57—Frances Irene, b. Dec. 21, 1907,
58—Alfred Meese, b. Nov. 29, 1909, d. Aug. 26, 1911,
59—Robert Nichols, b. May 31, 1916, d. Aug. 30, 1917.
-

- 37—Philip Harding Tourne married, June 25, 1913, Constance Heinkle; had:
60—Josetta Agnes, b. Dec. 7, 1916,
61—Rosilee Constance, b. May 16, 1919.
- 38—Joseph Clark Tourne married Sept. 12, 1917, Emma Donnelly; had:
62—Infant, b. July 31, 1918, d. same.
-

- 43—Andrew Glenn Haslett married, Oct. 8, 1919, Pearl Smith; had:
63—Ruth Jean, b. Feb. 13, 1922.
-

- 44—Charles Finley Howe married Mayme Gilbert; had:
64—Marjorie Edna, b. June 15, 1911,
65—Mary Lucile, b. Feb. 4, 1913,
66—Maxine Dimple, b. March 16, 1916,
67—Louiese Iona, b. Feb. 21, 1918.
- 45—Marjorie Gertrude Howe married A. D. Hardegree; had:
68—John Howe, b. Jan. 12, 1918.



Solomon E. Harding

W



William Tripp and Welthy Harding

CHAPTER IV.

SOLOMON E. HARDING

THE SPELLING of the name here given to the third son of Amos and Phoebe Tripp Harding is as it is given in the will of Amos Harding. Many of the descendants claim the name should be spelled Salmon, while others claim the name as given in the caption was signed to many legal and official documents.

Solomon (or Salmon) Harding was born in Luzerne county, Pa., Jan. 31, 1794, and died at Galion, Ohio, February 7, 1872. He married in 1815, Anna Wheat (b. March 28, 1795, d. Sept. 5, 1836) and to this union eight children were born. In 1837, after the death of his first wife, he married Eliza Lathrop, and to them one child, Alfred A., was born. After the death of his second wife he married Susan Mason.

When but six years of age Solomon Harding went with his parents to Susquehanna county, and in 1822 he and his family joined the Harding settlement in Richland county, Ohio, and remained in that vicinity until his death. He was a minister of the Old School Baptist church and organized Bethel church, near his home, in Crawford county, and was for many years its pastor. He was the father of:

- 1—Amos Major, b. Feb. 24, 1816, d. July, 1875,
- 2—Lebbus Lathrop, b. 1818,
- 3—Tary P., b. Nov. 10, 1819, d. Dec. 31, 1885,
- 4—Alexander Leighton,
- 5—Delilah, b. Feb. 24, 1824, d. June 5, 1908,
- 6—Charlotte,
- 7—George Washington, b. 1823, d. 1859,
- 8—Harrison, b. July 12, 1835, d. Jan. 12, 1915,
- 9—Alfred Avery, b. Sept. 18, 1838, d. July 9, 1877.

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- 1—Amos Major Harding married, 1837, Emma Roberts (b. Jan. 18, 1818, d. May 15, 1852); had:
 - 10—Eliza Ellen, b. Dec. 2, 1840, d. Oct. 19, 1914,
 - 11—Electa (married Wallace Kay),

- 12—Anna (married William Hazelhurst),
 13—Susan J. (married J. J. Williams),
 14—Charles (married Nora Strawbridge).
- 2—Lebbus Lathrop married 1st, Elmira Reed; 2nd, Caroline Stearnes; had:
 15—Edmund (killed at Pittsburg Landing, April, 1862)
 16—Malissa (Fetters),
 17—Truman G., b. Sept. 12, 1849.
- 3—Tary P. Harding married, 1857, Susan E. Hilliard (b. July 15, 1837, d. Jan. 30, 1901); had:
 18—Oren S., b. March 17, 1860,
 19—Eben E. T., b. July 20, 1862.
- 4—Alexander L. Harding married Carmelia Hubbell.
- 5—Delilah Harding married, June 12, 1851, Jacob Lortschler; had:
 20—Tary J., b. May 19, 1852,
 21—Susanna B., b. Aug. 18, 1854, d. May 6, 1892,
 22—Edward S., b. Nov. 2, 1862.
- 7—George W. Harding married, Hannah Johns; had:
 23—Mary (Dunham), b. March 13, 1852.
- 8—Harrison Harding married, 1st, Elizabeth Beard; 2nd, Elizabeth Souick (Blackston) (d. Jan. 29, 1916); had:
 24—Andrew Thomas, b. Sept. 8, 1860,
 25—Ella May, b. June 4, 1867,
 26—Edith M., b. Feb. 12, 1869, d. Feb. 24, 1889,
 27—Chauncey Elmer, b. Oct. 30, 1870,
 28—Etta Emily (Wagoner), b. Nov. 2, 1872,
 29—Charles Eli, b. Jan. 31, 1875,
 30—Della C. (Scheidler), b. Jan. 7, 1878,
 31—Daisy Delilah, b. Aug. 19, 1880,
 32—Roy John, b. Jan. 31, 1884.
- 9—Alfred Avery Harding married, Jan. 23, 1859, Ella V. Crawford; had:
 33—Della Sophia, b. Nov. 25, 1859, d. Nov. 3, 1865,
 34—Benjamin F., b. Oct. 5, 1861.

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- 10—Eliza Ellen Harding married, May 8, 1860, Samuel McCleery (b. Feb. 24, 1829, d. June 30, 1886); had:
35—Cora A., b. Dec. 27, 1862,
36—Emma E. (Phillips),
37—Isabel (Green),
38—Nellie M. (Martine).
- 14—Charles Harding married Nora Strawbridge; had:
39—Harry.
-
- 17—Truman G. Harding married, Sept. 24, 1875, Sarah E. Lemon; had:
40—Rinaldo J., b. Jan. 25, 1876,
41—Estella M., b. Jan. 25, 1877,
42—Elmer C., b. April 4, 1881,
43—Glenn M., b. March 20, 1887,
44—Gailard O., b. Sept. 8, 1891,
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- 18—Oren S. Harding married, 1879, Mary Kelley (b. 1862); had:
Raymond, b. 1884. d. 1893.
- 19—E. E. Harding married, July 15, 1886, Kate Litzenburg; had:
45—Ila M., b. April 16, 1887,
46—Wilbur T., b. Jan. 10, 1900.
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- 20—Tary J. Lortscher, married 1st, Oct. 21, 1880, Bethany Gross (d. May 17, 1887); 2nd, Aug. 4, 1889, Anna Rusk; had:
47—Cora E., b. Oct. 27, 1882,
48—Jessie E., b. Nov. 16, 1884, d. Sept. 8, 1891,
49—Daisy B. (Lally), b. April 24, 1887,
50—Blanche, b. July 8, 1893,
51—Tary J., b. Feb. 23, 1898, d. Jan. 4, 1901.
- 21—Susanna Lortscher married, Sept. 14, 1873, Hiram King; had:
52—William J., b. June 8, 1874,
53—Freddie, b. Oct. 14, 1878, d. 1880,
54—Edward B., b. Dec. 7, 1880,
55—Myrta C., b. Jan. 30, 1882,

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- 56—Delilah, b. July 18, 1890,
 57—Lucy, b. April 19, 1892.
- 22—Edward S. Lortscher married, Sept. 21, 1881, Carrie Dunbar; had:
 58—Cad B. (Alexander), b. June 24, 1882,
 59—Dot, b. Feb. 6, 1884,
 60—Mae (Dietz), b. March 31, 1886,
 61—Edward, b. June 27, 1902.
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- 23—Mary Harding married July 26, 1870, James H. Dunham; had:
 62—Clara Agnew, b. Sept. 20, 1871, d. Feb. 28, 1881,
 63—Clyde May, b. April 28, 1874,
 64—Jay H., b. Oct. 25, 1875,
 65—Virginia T. (Pfiffer), b. Oct. 25, 1877,
 66—Mattie G., b. May 6, 1880,
 67—Maryalice, b. June 23, 1890.
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- 24—Andrew Thomas Harding married, Feb. 22, 1882, Harriet Matilda Cove; had:
 68—James Harrison, b. July 23, 1887,
 69—Winona Pearl (Acton), b. Feb. 24, 1889,
 70—Arthur Franklin, b. Dec. 31, 1890,
 71—Gladys, b. Nov. 6, 1892, d.
 72—Guy, b. Nov. 6, 1892, d.
 73—Eliza May, b. May 22, 1894, d. -----,
 74—Henry Louis, b. Jan. 23, 1896,
 75—Alva Lucile (Monroe), b. Dec. 1, 1897,
 76—Ruby Fern (Dennis), b. Sept. 19, 1900.
- 31—Daisy D. Harding married, Jan. 7, 1897, Rowland E. Flick; had:
 77—Claude Harrison, b. Oct. 24, 1898,
 78—Harold Edgar, b. April 24, 1904.
- 32—Roy John Harding married, January 30, 1907, Blanche Playfoot; had:
 79—Maurice Cecil, b. Feb. 2, 1908,
 80—Ervin Hugh, b. July 12, 1911,
 81—Lucile Mabel, b. March 25, 1913,
 82—Junita Ardel, b. May 25, 1915.

34—Benjamin F. Harding married, October 19, 1887, Jennie May; had:

83—Ruth Francis, b. March 24, 1903.

35—Cora A. McCleery married, June 24, 1890, Guy Coulter (b. Sept. 21, 1861, d. Oct. 12, 1901); had:

84—Wilda Ruth, b. April 18, 1895.

36—Emma E. McCleery married, Frank W. Phillips; had:

85—Leon R. Phillips,

86—Clyde Phillips,

87—Frank Phillips.

37—Isabel McCleery married Charles H. Green; had:

88—Esther Green,

89—Charles H. Green,

90—Dorothy Green,

91—Isabel Green,

92—John Harding Green.

38—Nellie M. McCleery married J. C. Martine; had:

93—Mildred V. Martine,

94—Lois A. Martine.

41—Estella M. Harding married, Jan. 21, 1903, James B. Pumphrey; had:

95—James C., b. Dec., 1905.

42—Elmer C. Harding married, April 21, 1903, Estella Rider; had:

96—Roena B., b. June 21, 1904.

47—Cora E. Lortscher married T. H. Clegg; had:

97—Jack L., b. Oct. 23, 1918.

50—Blanche Lortscher married Dr. Chas. Schier; had:

98—Charles David, b. May, 1922.

55—Myrta C. King married, Dec. 21, 1904, Ira B. Wilson; had:

99—Robert Knight, b. Aug. 6, 1906.

58—Cad B. Lortscher married, June 22, 1904, Roy Alexander; had:

100—Roy, Jr., b. March 14, 1906.

63—Clyde May Dunham married, April 18, 1898, John W. Ruhl; had:

101—Dunham, b. March 4, 1889,

102—Kenneth, b. June 3, 1907.

66—Mattie G. Dunham married, July 19, 1889, Harry S. Davis; had:

103—Gerald, b. Oct. 2, 1903.

84—Wilda Ruth Coulter, married July 7, 1920, Yeatman Anderson II; had:

104—Yeatman Anderson III.



Mordecai Rice and Susannah Newton Harding

CHAPTER V.

MORDECAI RICE HARDING

MORDECAI RICE HARDING was born near Wilkesbarre, Luzerne county, Penn., Nov. 18, 1795, and died in Richland county, Ohio, March 21, 1870, aged 74 years, 4 months and 3 days. When a boy of five years he went with his parents to Susquehanna County, Penn., and there, September 18, 1817, he was married to Susannah Baker-Newton.

Mordecai was the first of the family of Amos and Phoebe Tripp Harding to leave the old Pennsylvania homestead and venture into the then almost unknown "west." In July, 1818, with his wife and all his worldly goods in an ox-drawn wagon, he, after a long journey, fraught with many dangers incident to travel in those days, arrived at a spot just within the borders of Richland County, Ohio. Here he "squatted" on a quarter section of school land which he later bought from the government. It was upon this old homestead, of which he retained possession for nearly 50 years, that all his children were born, and all but two reared to manhood and womanhood.

When Mordecai Harding arrived in that part of Ohio the country was one vast wilderness. He helped clear the timber from what later became the "great highway" traversing that country, which became the main artery of travel for all the pioneers who settled the country still farther to the west.

The country was then inhabited by Indian tribes. A short time after his arrival Mordecai Harding, while on an exploration trip, wandered from the marked trail and became lost in the dense woods. After wandering for some time he saw the light of a camp fire at some distance and, approaching it found it to be the camp of Chief Pipe, one of the ruling chieftans of the Indian tribes inhabiting that part of the country. With little hesitation he approached the camp and was met by the Chief who gave him food, a place to sleep, and skins to protect him from the night atmosphere; and at daybreak the Chief, with a party of warriors escorted him back to the trail and directed him on his way home.

Many times thereafter Chief Pipe visited the home of Mordecai Harding where he was always welcomed and fed. In 1820

the Indians became restive and, fearing for their safety, the Harding family returned to the old home in Pennsylvania, returning the following year, making the entire trip on horseback. When they returned to Ohio, they found the homes of nearly all their neighbors in ashes and their crops destroyed, but no damage whatever had been inflicted on the property of the Hardings, it having been protected by the orders of their Indian friends. The friendship between the Harding families and the Indians continued for many years, until Chief Pipe and his band were removed farther to the west.

Other members of his father's family followed to the west within the next few years, all settling close together, and for over fifty years that portion of the country was known as the "Harding Settlement."

Mordecai followed farming all his life and by economy and good management at one time was the owner of 300 acres of choice land, at that time considered an enormous tract. He served for many years in local official life, and filled various positions the greater portion of his life on the district school boards, being somewhat noted for his earnest efforts toward the upbuilding of the country schools. The first school building to be erected in that part of the state was located on land which he gave to the district, being a part of his original home farm, and the first log school house was erected largely through his efforts.

He was a member of the Baptist church and from the date of its organization for nearly fifty years he served as deacon of the old Bloomingview (afterwards Blooming Grove) Baptist church. He was a pronounced anti-slavery man and the Harding settlement at Blooming Grove was well known as a prominent station on the famous "Underground Railway" for the transportation of slaves from the South to Canada.

A few years previous to his death he disposed of the old home farm and made his home with his son, Mordecai Rice, Jr., where he died. His remains rest in the old burying grounds at Blooming Grove, (now Corsica), Morrow County, Ohio.

After the death of his first wife in March, 1851, Mordecai Rice Harding was married, January 15, 1852, to Martha Steele, who survived him, dying May 15, 1875. There were no children to this union.

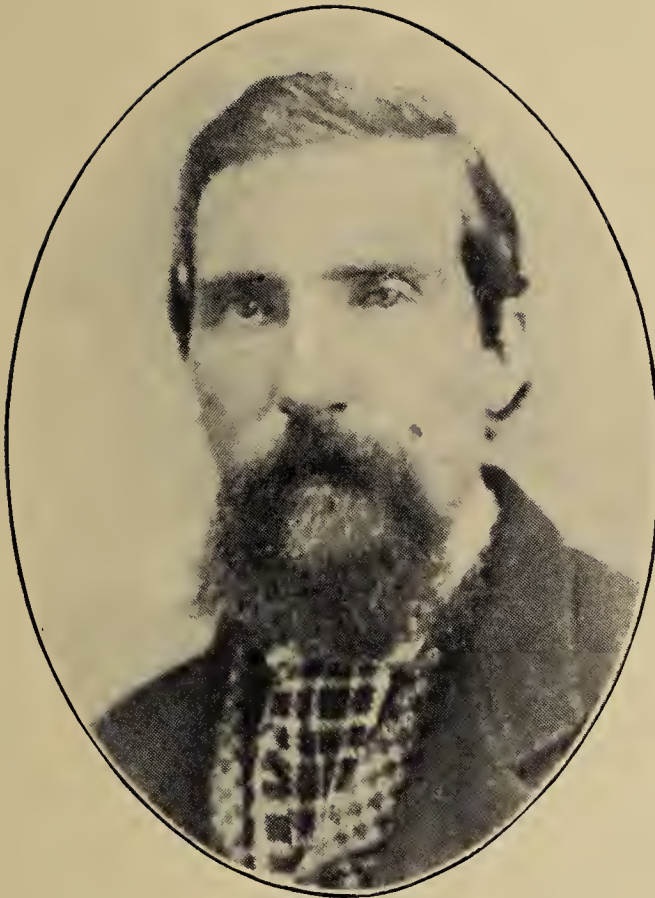
Susannah Newton, the first wife of Mordecai Rice Harding,

was born near Milford, Conn., March 24, 1794. She was a daughter of Ebenezer Baker (a son of Jacob Baker) of whom it is said that as a lad of 12 years he joined a Connecticut regiment in the Revolutionary War as a drummer, serving in the same regiment of which his father was a member, throughout the entire term of his enlistment. Ebenezer Baker came with his family to Susquehanna county in 1812, settling near Clifford. In 1813 Susannah was married to Thomas Newton a son of Matthew Newton, who also came to Pennsylvania from Connecticut, settling on a farm a few miles west of Clifford. To this union of Susannah Baker and Thomas Newton one child, a daughter, Liza Ann, was born. On Jan. 8, 1830, when but 15 years of age, she was married to Hiram Wells, and died in August, 1834. Hiram Wells afterwards married Welthy Harding, a sister of Mordecai Rice. Thomas Newton died June 1, 1815, and in September, 1817, Susannah Baker-Newton was married to Mordecai Rice Harding. They had:

- 1—Thomas Newton, b. Sept. 30, 1818, d. Jan. 24, 1888,
- 2—James Harvey, b. Jan. 8, 1821, d. Nov. 15, 1892,
- 3—Lucinda, b. Sept. 13, 1823, d. Dec. 23, 1886,
- 4—Susan J., b. Oct. 3, 1825, d. July 27, 1897,
- 5—Mordecai Rice, b. Nov. 13, 1827, d. March 22, 1904,
- 6—Rosalinda, b. Dec. 23, 1829, d. Sept. 21, 1852,
- 7—Edward Sturges, b. May 12, 1833, d. Jan. 12, 1896,
- 8—Louisa J., b. May 13, 1835, d. 1920.
- 9—Mary E., b. Dec. 27, 1839, d. Sept. 18, 1852.

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- 1—Thomas Newton Harding married, May 31, 1846, Eleanor Coulter Johnson (b. 1824, d. March 4, 1904); had:
 - 10—Helen Mar, b. Nov. 18, 1847,
 - 11—Edward Newton, b. Aug. 20, 1851, d. Aug., 1853,
 - 12—Saint Clair, b. March 10, 1853, d. Aug., 1853,
 - 13—Dick Foye, b. July 10, 1860.
 - 2—James Harvey Harding married, May 5, 1842, Emily Flint; (b. June 20, 1824, d. Aug. 11, 1897); had:
 - 14—Odelpha, b. Aug. 21, 1843, d. Sept. 4, 1907,
 - 15—O. Curtis, b. April 29, 1847, d. Sept. 1, 1924,
 - 16—Roscella, b. Oct. 4, 1849, d. April 30, 1889,
 - 17—A. Judson, b. Dec. 22, 1852, d. Aug. 24, 1855,
 - 18—Thomas Spencer, b. April 27, 1855, d. Feb. 11, 1872,
 - 19—Will E., b. Sept. 25, 1858, d. Jan. 18, 1922.

- 3—Lucinda Harding married, January 8, 1843, William H. Converse (b. 1822, d. June 6, 1864); had:
 20—Lewis N., b. Nov. 3, 1846, d. Feb. 18, 1919,
 21—Ella L., b. Feb. 23, 1849,
 22—Edith A., b. July 25, 1855, d. 1923.
- 4—Susan J. Harding married, 1845, David Butler (b. Dec. 22, 1823, d. Aug. 22, 1876); had:
 23—Julia, b. Jan. 7, 1846, d. March, 1874,
 24—Susannah, b. Sept. 20, 1847, d. Oct. 1, 1847,
 25—Mary L., b. June 14, 1852, d. 1910,
 26—Mordecai E., b. Sept. 18, 1854,
 27—Bernice J., b. May 27, 1869.
- 5—Mordecai Rice Harding, Jr., married Nov. 19, 1854, Catherine Snyder (b. March 16, 1832, d. Aug. 1, 1913); had:
 28—Eva Gertrude, b. Feb. 16, 1857, d. Aug. 6, 1877,
 29—Lulu Jenette, b. May 18, 1860, d. July 9, 1874.
 30—James Ralph, b. Oct. 23, 1863,
 31—Wilbur Judd, born Jan. 4, 1868,
 32—Lewis Homer, b. Aug. 15, 1870, d. Aug. 1, 1921,
 33—Freddie Rice, b. April 8, 1876, d. Oct. 18, 1876.
- 7—Edward Sturges Harding married, April 1, 1855, Caroline Morton (b. Jan. 13, 1836); had:
 34—Rosalinda, b. Feb. 23, 1856, d. July 16, 1908,
 35—Lewis F., b. Dec. 5, 1857,
 36—Inez H., b. April 1, 1860,
 37—Susan J., b. Jan. 21, 1862,
 38—Ullric D., b. March 23, 1864,
 39—Lydia C., b. Sept. 4, 1866,
 40—Mattie, b. Nov. 20, 1868, d. Feb. 3, 1870,
 41—Leroy D., b. Feb. 22, 1873,
 42—Ella L. (Peters), b. May 4, 1875, d. -----
- 8—Louisa Jane Harding married, Oct. 16, 1854, John H. Morton (b. April 3, 1831, d. 1908); had:
 43—Carrie L., b. Jan. 30, 1856, d. Feb. 5, 1857,
 44—Martha A., b. Dec. 30, 1857,
 45—Melville E., b. Aug. 18, 1859,
 46—Lewis Ellsworth, b. Nov. 10, 1861,



Thomas Newton Harding



James Harvey Harding



Lucinda Harding Converse



Edward and Caroline Harding

-
- 47—Mordecai R., b. Sept. 26, 1865, d. Sept. 29, 1868,
48—Ruth J., b. August 2, 1870.

10—Helen M. Harding married George Chambers; 2nd
Thomas Meredith.

13—Dick F. Harding married, Sept. 15, 1881, Mary Clark;
had:

49—Eleanor Grace (Hill)

50 James Newton,

51—Dick,

52—Helen M.,

53—Dorothy (Franer)

54—Ruth,

55—June.

14—Odelpha Harding married, Sept. 16, 1861, Reuben Davis
(d. Feb. 22, 1902); had:

56—Emma Solora, b. July 16, 1863, d. March 5, 1915,

57—John Harvey, b. April 10, 1866.

15—O. Curtis Harding married, Sept. 1, 1875, Clara J.
Story; had:

58—Ora Elda, b. July 30, 1876,

59—Mabel Clare, b. Aug. 18, 1878, d. July 27, 1913,

60—Jessie Ethel, b. Dec. 29, 1880, d. Dec. 17, 1881,

61—Leola Fay, b. Sept. 15, 1886,

62—Roscoe Merrill, b. March 20, 1888.

16—Roscella Harding married Nov. 10, 1867, Frank Brown;
had:

63—Eva Sedora, b. Sept. 26, 1868, d. April 19, 1889,

64—Judson Howard, b. Feb. 12, 1871, d. March, 1921,

65—Burton Ray, b. May 13, 1874,

66—Emily Francis, b. April 21, 1877, d. Jan. 30, 1891.

19—Will E. Harding married, Aug. 3, 1881, Jeanne Orr; had:

67—Clela May, b. Aug. 27, 1882,

68—John Harvey, b. May 30, 1886,

69—Harry Flint, b. Aug. 16, 1889.

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- 20—Lewis N. Converse married, Dec. 14, 1882, Margaret H. Kiene; had:
 70—Ella, b. Sept. 4, 1884, d. Aug. 2, 1885,
 71—Jessie Marie, b. March 6, 1886,
 72—William K., b. Dec. 30, 1888,
 73—Lewis N., b. Jan. 13, 1894.
- 21—Ella L. Converse married, Feb. 21, 1883, William H. Johnson; had:
 74—Warren E., b. Dec. 3, 1883.
- 22—Edith A. Converse married, March 11, 1880, Don D. Hendee; had:
 75—Don D., b. Aug. 6, 1881, d. Jan. 20, 1885.
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- 23—Julia Butler married, 1865, Lewis Morton; had:
 76—Otho B. Morton,
 77—Edith I. Morton,
 78—Mary D. Morton.
- 25—Mary L. Butler married, 1871, Hiram Stevens; had:
 79—Elbertice Stevens,
 80—Sinclair Stevens,
 81—Ralph Stevens,
 82—Jesse K. Stevens,
 83—Bernice Ruth (Cunningham).
- 26—Mordecai E. Butler married, 1874, Clara Rodocker; had:
 84—Myrtle Butler
 85—Laura Butler,
 85a—Ida,
 86—Mary Butler,
 87—Pearl Butler,
 88—Roy Butler,
 89—Edith Butler,
 90—Marie Butler,
- 27—Bernice J. Butler married, 1893, William E. Meredith; had:
 91—Dee Butler Meredith,
 92—Clyde Vyril Meredith.



Lewis Homer Harding



James Ralph Harding

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- 28—Eva Gertrude Harding married Jan. 1, 1876, William McArthur; had:
93—William Harvey, b. Jan. 4, 1877, d. July 1, 1877,
- 30—James R. Harding married, Oct. 5, 1892, Sadie W. Wilbur, (b. July 26, 1871); had:
94—Anna Fern, b. Aug. 11, 1893,
95—Harry Holbert, b. Sept. 7, 1902.
- 31—Wilbur J. Harding married, June 2, 1890, Lillie E. Lull (b. May 29, 1870); had:
96—Edith Lull (Akers), b. April 4, 1891.
97—Ralph Rice, b. June 25, 1892, d. Oct. 28, 1919.
98—Laura Mae (Boysen), b. May 7, 1894.
99—Mary Marguerite (Harder), b. March 19, 1898.
100—Wilberta Janice (Dotsen), b. Aug. 12, 1903.
- 32—Lewis Homer Harding married, Oct. 19, 1896, Nellie M. Cross; had:
101—Kenneth Homer, b. Dec. 24, 1897.
-
- 34—Rosalinda Harding married, July 4, 1878, William H. McArthur (d. Feb., 1917); had:
102—Grace Eva (Bond), b. Aug. 13, 1879.
103—Judson Edward, b. Aug. 6, 1881.
104—Lulu Etta (Langregru), b. Jan. 25, 1884.
105—Lenna Esther, b. April 4, 1886, d. Sept. 14, 1886.
106—Edith Ella, b. July 25, 1887, d. Feb. 1, 1891.
- 35—Lewis F. Harding married, 1884, Rose Romaker; had:
107—Edward, b. 1885.
108—Ethel, b. 1889.
109—Guy U., b. 1892.
110—Fay Etta (Belding), b. 1894.
- 36—Inez Harding married, March 4, 1879, Owen P. Dabney; had:
111—Maude Eva, (Thomas), b. Feb. 12, 1880.
112—Albert M., b. Aug. 18, 1881, d. Jan. 16, 1882.
113—Arthur D., b. Jan. 25, 1884; d. May, 1891.
114—Walter E., b. Oct. 5, 1885.
115—Harold H., b. Aug. 2, 1888.
115a—Joseph R., b. Jan. 20, 1893.
115b—Mary Louise (Baker), b. Sept. 20, 1894.

- 37—Susan J. Harding married, July 14, 1887, George C. Wolf; had:
116—Vera Nell, b. July 14, 1891.
117—Georgiana C., b. 1894.
- 38—Ullric D. Harding married, 1888, Kate Engle; had:
118—Inez, b. Oct. 31, 1890.
119—Philip, b. Nov. 19, 1891.
—Ralph, b. 1894, d. 1897.
120—Ruth, b. Sept. 13, 1897.
- 39—Lydia C. Harding married, April 10, 1890, Edward P. Kershner; had:
121—Frank U., b. Feb., 1891.
122—George E., b. Jan., 1897.
- 41—Leroy D. Harding married, Sept. 1, 1896, Ella Peters; had:
123—Leroy Lewis, b. June 10, 1897.
-
- 44—Martha A. Morton married, Dec. 11, 1876, Jacob M. Starr; 2nd, John Menard.
- 45—Melville E. Morton married, Aug. 19, 1883, Amelia Cloak; had:
124—Carrie S., b. July 18, 1884, d. 1886.
125—Laura J., b. Nov. 11, 1886.
126—Leola May, b. Jan. 23, 1890, d. 1921.
127—Anna.
128—John, d., 1922.
- 46—Lewis E. Morton married, April 8, 1882, Kate Sames; had:
129—John Earl, b. Oct. 22, 1885.
130—Charles Howard, b. Sept. 2, 1891.
- 48—Ruth J. Morton married, Aug. 2, 1886, Theron E. Rice; had:
131—Elma A., b. Feb. 3, 1888.
132—Cedric M., b. May 31, 1890.

57—John Harvey Davis married, Nellie Cochrane; had:
133—Inez.

58—Ora E. Harding married, June 30, 1896, James Churchill;
had:

134—Margaret Lucile, b. Jan. 12, 1898.

135—Clara Juanita, b. Dec. 18, 1899.

136—Dorris Gail, b. May 7, 1902.

137—Roscoe E., b. May 16, 1904.

138—Henry Curtis, b. July 11, 1914.

59—Mabel C. Harding married, Feb. 7, 1897, Charles H.
Hodge; had:

139—Blakney Merritt, b. May 25, 1899, d. Sept. 6, 1919.

140—Wilda Arline, b. Aug. 16, 1902.

61—Leola Fay Harding married, Oct. 18, 1906, J. H. Porter.

94—Anna Fern Harding married, Sept. 30, 1911, John LeRoy
Young; had:

141—Phyllis Arline, b. Sept. 19, 1915, d. Aug. 1, 1917.

142—James Robert, b. May 10, 1918.

143—Mary Jane, b. Sept. 23, 1921.

96—Edith Lull Harding married, June 8, 1911, Charles A.
Akers.

97.—Ralph R. Harding, enlisted May 4, 1917, in Bat. E, First
Iowa Field Artillery; spent 11 months in training at
Camp Cody, Deming, New Mexico; embarked for France
April 6, 1918, and was assigned to Hdq. Co. 147th Field
Artillery, 30th Div., promoted to Corp.; served on five
major battle fronts, and was in service at signing of arm-
istice, Nov. 11, 1918; discharged from service at Ft.
Des Moines, Ia., May 23, 1919; married Dorothea M.
Klappholz May 24, 1919; had:

144—Lillian Ann, b. July 2, 1920.

98—Laura May Harding married, April 23, 1916, Herman F.
Boysen; had:

145—Harvey Harding, b. April 19, 1917.

146—Donald Ralph, b. Dec. 16, 1918.

147—Jean Louise, b. Aug. 21, 1921.

148—Doris Kathleen, b. April 19, 1924.

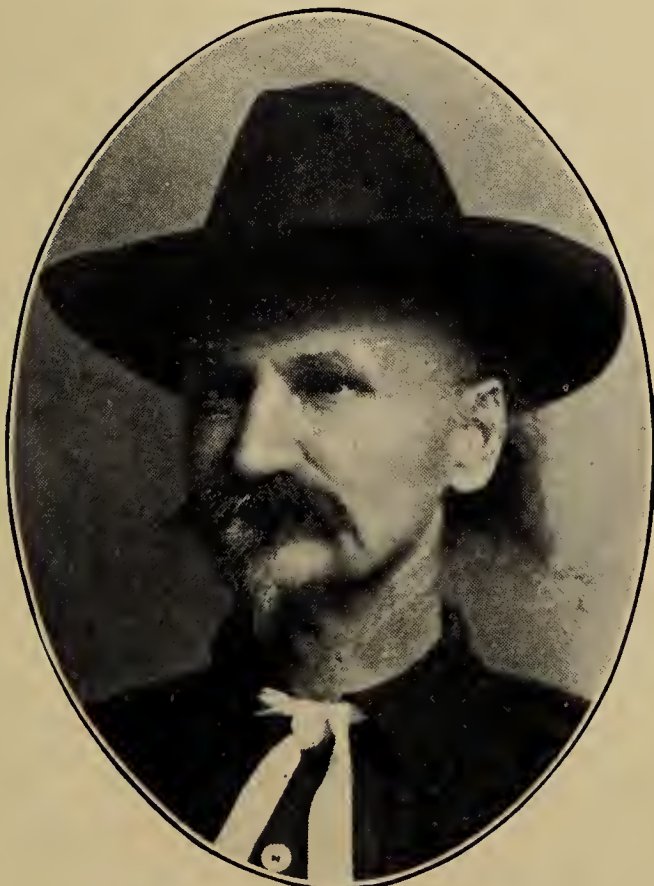
-
- 99—Mary Marguerite Harding married, July 2, 1918, Robert M. Harder.
- 100—Wilberta J. Harding married, Oct. 19, 1922, Hubert F. Dotsen.
-
- 115—Capt. Henry Harold Dabney entered West Point 1911; graduated 1915; served in World War with the 91st Div.; now serving U. S. government with the 15th Inft. at Tien Tsin, China; married Margaret Wilson, had 149—Virginia.
- 118—Inez Harding married, May 12, 1909, Gustav A. Keppner; had:
 150—Louise M., b. Feb. 18, 1910.
 151—Ruth E., by. Dec. 1, 1913.
- 119—Philip Harding married, Adnah -----; had:
 152—Ruth.
 153—Philip.
 154—Thelma.
- 120—Ruth Harding married, July 3, 1920, Walter Zabel; had:
 155—Louise, b. May 10, 1922.
 156—Bruce H., b. Oct. 17, 1924.



Welthy Harding Baker-Wells



Emily A. Baker Ross-Dickerson



Enoch Winslow Ross



Custer Enoch Ross

CHAPTER VI.

WELTHY HARDING BAKER-WELLS

WELTHY HARDING was born in Clifford township, Luzerne county, Penn., March 15, 1797. November 6, 1814, she was married to Joseph Baker (b. Aug. 30, 1788, d. January 8, 1834) a son of Ebenezer Baker who came with his family from Connecticut in 1812 and settled in Clifford township, Pa. He was a brother of Susannah Baker-Newton, the first wife of Mordecai Rice Harding, Sr., brother of Welthy Harding. The Baker family came to Ohio in 1820, settling in Richland county, where Joseph Baker died.

Ida May Heath of Bakersfield, Calif., a grand daughter of Stephen Parker Baker (3), gives the following information regarding the genealogy of Joseph Baker: Jacob Baker had one daughter and four sons: Thomas Baker, Mary Baker, b. Feb. 3, 1760, James, b. 1763, Ebenezer, b. 1765, Abiel, b. April 17, 1768. Some say Jacob Baker was born in England in 1738, and others say in 1744. Ebenezer Baker had three children: Joseph, born Aug. 30, 1788, d. Jan. 8, 1834; Susan, b. June 27, 1794, d. March 3, 1851; George, b. Oct. 9, 1800, d. Sept. 7, 1840.

On January 24, 1835, Welthy married Hiram Wells. In 1846 the Wells family moved to Michigan where they remained until 1867, when they went to St. Claire county, Missouri, residing there until 1881 when they moved to Santa Ana, Cal., where Hiram Wells died January 24, 1885, on the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding. Welthy Wells died at the same place August 19, 1886.

Hiram Wells had been previously married to Liza Ann Newton, the only child of Thomas and Susannah Baker-Newton, the latter being mentioned above as the first wife of Mordecai Rice Harding, Sr., sister of Joseph Baker.

Welthy Harding was an exemplary Christian and a fond mother. She was of medium height and of much personal charm. She possessed to the utmost those characteristics which have exalted the pioneer wife and mother, and her excellent traits are held in veneration by her many descendants. Had:

1—Amos Harding Baker, b. Sept. 25, 1815, d. Sept. 2, 1844.

2—Emily Ann Baker, b. Aug. 15, 1817, d. Nov. 19, 1900.

-
- 3—Stephen Parker Baker, b. Dec. 1, 1819, d. Aug. 17, 1890.
 4—Emmaus Baker, b. Jan. 30, 1822, d. Dec. 31, 1900.
 5—Susan Levina Baker, b. March 28, 1824, d. March 28, 1826.
 6—Artemissa Baker, b. Oct. 11, 1826, d. May 19, 1848.
 7—John M. Baker, b. Jan. 2, 1829, d. 1865.
 8—Joseph M. Baker, b. Jan. 19, 1831, d. July, 1910.
 9—William Vinson Baker, b. June 29, 1833, d. March 16, 1882.
 10—Sidney W. Wells, b. July 3, 1836, d. Feb. 13, 1840.
 11—Corydon Luther Wells, b. ab. 1841.
 12—Charles Corwin Wells, b. ab. 1843.
 13—Lewis Marion Wells.
-
- 1—Amos Harding Baker married, Jan. 29, 1836, Mary Ann Marley; had:
 14—Elzy Baker, had one son, Ransom.
 Sarah Baker, died at the age of four years.
 15—Charity Baker, d. Jan. 26, 1920; m. ----- Beard; had: Jessica (Robinson), E. A. Beard, Clem Beard.
 16—Welthy Ann Baker, b. Dec. 18, 1839, d. Dec. 23, 1919; m. ----- Cross (b. Sept. 19, 1819, d. Aug. 21, 1885); had:
 Rolla B., b. Aug. 16, 1876; Daisy G. (Stoffer), b. Nov. 28, 1878; Maud M. (Walters), b. June 25, 1882.
-
- 2—Emily Ann Baker married, Sept. 21, 1832, John R. Ross (b. March 10, 1802, d. May 9, 1860); 2nd Oct. 15, 1861, William Bailey Dickerson (b. 1807, d. June, 1878); had:
 17—Joseph Baker Ross, b. Feb. 2, 1835, d. Oct. 2, 1920.
 18—Daniel Ross, b. Sept. 1, 1837, d. April 2, 1923.
 19—John Wesley Ross, b. May 3, 1839, d. Feb. 6, 1851.
 20—Artemissa Ross, b. Aug. 14, 1841, d. Feb. 1845.
 21—Elsie A. Ross, b. Nov. 5, 1844, d. Dec. 1, 1866.
 22—Amanda Ross, b. Nov. 11, 1847, d. March 1, 1878.
 23—Enoch Winslow Ross, b. June 18, 1850.
 24—John Henry Power Ross, b. Jan. 19, 1853, d. June 1880.
 25—Adaline Ross, b. Nov. 9, 1855, d. Oct. 5, 1861.
 26—Albert Ross, b. March 18, 1859, d. Sept. 5, 1861.
 27—Charles J. Dickerson, b. Nov. 8, 1862.
 28—Mahlon Alvendore Dickerson, b. Feb. 22, 1866.

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- 3—Stephen Parker Baker married, March 4, 1849, Mary Jane Webster (b. July 20, 1824, d. Oct. 6, 1859); 2nd, Sept. 5, 1860, Catherine Coulthard; had:
29—Arvilla, (Heath), b. July 20, 1852.
30—Lewis Esli, b. Jan. 5, 1855.
31—Dor. Wells, b. Oct. 16, 1861, d. Dec. 12, 1880.
32—Artimicia C. (David), b. Nov. 11, 1864.
- 4—Emmaus Baker married, Feb. 25, 1847, Matilda Dunlap; 2nd, March 12, 1863, Margaret A. Logan (b. Oct. 25, 1840, d. Oct. 13, 1911); had:
33—James A., b. Sept. 25, 1849.
33a—Frances M., b. Jan. 24, 1852.
33b—Willis C., b. Oct. 3, 1859, d. Nov. 12, 1900.
34—Miles Elmer, b. May 15, 1864, d. Oct. 23, 1876.
34a—Luetta (Stanley), b. June 14, 1868.
- 6—Artemissa Baker married, April 8, 1847, Andrew Caton.
- 7—John M. Baker married, -----; and had one son Wells H. Baker, b. Sept. 24, 1851, d. May 15, 1898; married, 2nd, June 7, 1871, Sarah E. Shepley; had:
—John Edwin, b. July 12, 1872; m. March 17, 1906, Mamie E. Wilson, had Georgia E. and Evelyn F.
—Frank H., b. Oct. 31, 1873, d. Jan. 18, 1912; m. Dec. 15, 1897; had Freddie W., Glen F.
—Freddie W., b. Oct. 31, 1873, d. Oct. 4, 1874.
—Archie H., b. March 12, 1879; m. Aug., 1900, Pearl M. Peck; had Harry E., Gurney W., Nellie M.
—Daisy May, b. March 12, 1879, d. March 16, 1919; m. Dec. 27, 1898, Gurney E. Hadley; had: Eleanor M. (Elkins), Leland G. and Archie L.
—Maggie E., b. Feb. 6, 1883; m. Aug. 30, 1906, Geo. F. Thompson; had Robert, and Dick.
- 8—Joseph M. Baker married 1st, Isabella Painter; 2nd, Mary Roxana Barmer; had:
34b—Matilda, b. Feb. 27, 1851.
34c—Amos, b. April, 1853, d. 1853.
34d—Luther W., b. March 27, 1854.
34e—Charles, b. July 9, 1855.
34f—Minnie, b. Oct. 7, 1856, d. June 30, 1858.
34g—Terry L., b. May 30, 1861, d. March 7, 1891.

- 34h—Milo Y., b. Aug. 7, 1862, d. Feb. 25, 1918.
Had by second wife, Willie, Carrie and Frank Baker.
- 9—William Vinson Baker married, Aug. 11, 1853, Elizabeth A. Horner (b. Jan. 16, 1836, d. Oct. 17, 1863); had:
34k—Hiram W., b. Feb. 1, 1856.
34l—Rosalinda S., b. July 24, 1859; m. Nov. 16, 1887, George E. Snuff (b. Dec. 3, 1859); had Hazel D., b. Oct. 5, 1895.
- 11—C. Luther Wells married, -----; had:
35—Charles Burton Wells, b. Oct. 4, 1865.
36—Caroline Wells (Brodt), b. Sept. 5, 1870.
37—Florence G. Wells (Catlin), b. Jan. 12, 1877.
38—Clifford P. Wells, b. July 16, 1889.
-
- 17—Joseph Baker Ross married, 1860, Lavina Knox Stone-
street; had:
39—Grant, b. 1866.
- 18—Daniel Ross married, Sept. 13, 1858, Nancy Appleman;
had:
40—Emily Ann, (Searight), b. 1860.
41—Bertha Jane (Miller), b. 1862.
42—Corydon P., b. 1864.
43—William Thomas, b. 1866, d. 1870.
44—Rollin H., b. 1869.
45—Grace L., b. 1873, d. Nov. 15, 1924.
- 22—Amanda Ross married, 1866, James Mitchell; had:
46—Minnie, b. 1868.
47—Charles E., b. 1870.
- 23—Enoch W. Ross married, March 1, 1882, Charlotte Por-
ter; had:
48—Custer Enoch, b. March 10, 1883.
49—(Dr.) Dick Raymond, b. July 11, 1884.
50—John Royal, b. Nov. 13, 1886.
51—Anna (Downing), b. May 1, 1889, d. Aug. 3, 1915.
52—Donald Franklin, b. Nov. 10, 1890.
53—Grant G., b. Jan. 9, 1892.
54—Dercy (Haggerty), b. Oct. 5, 1893.
55—Amy (Bristol), b. March 20, 1896.
56—Birdie, b. March 20, 1898, d. Oct. 1, 1902.

-
- 57—Kathlyn (Nowlin), b. Dec. 10, 1900.
58—Errol W., b. June 3, 1902.
59—Jennie, b. Feb. 15, 1908.
- 24—John Henry Power Ross married, 1870, -----;
had:
60—Amelia Maude (Burke), b. Sept. 5, 1873.
61—Clifford Herbert, b. July 10, 1875.
62—Ione Emmeline, (Lindsley), b. Sept. 5, 1877.
63—John Franklin, b. Sept. 12, 1879, d. 1883.
- 28—Mahlon Alvendore Dickerson married, Jan. 21, 1894,
Margaret Hullt; had:
64—Clifton Harold, b. March 25, 1895.
65—Vadis Emma, b. April 4, 1898, d. April 20, 1903.
66—Faye Amelia, b. Sept. 20, 1902.
67—Helen Elizabeth, b. May 19, 1910.
-
- 40—Emily A. Ross married, Jan. 7, 1892, Wm. Searight; had:
68—Louise.
- 42—Corydon P. Ross married, Artie Grace Stamen; had:
69—Marie (McKinley).
70—Charles (m. Florence Houston).
-
- 48—Custer Enoch Ross married, Jan. 10, 1915, Virginia
Mascher; had:
71—Margaret, b. Jan. 12, 1916.
72—Douglas Mackenzie, b. Dec. 4, 1918.
73—Daniel Harding, b. Aug. 5, 1923.
- 51—Anna Ross married, 1907, Floyd Downing; had:
74—Donald Downing.
75—Evelyn Downing.
76—Dare Downing.
- 52—Donald Franklin Ross married, 1916, Ethel Sanders; had:
77—Donald C. Ross. 78—Maxine Ross.
- 53—Grant G. Ross married, 1921, Agnes Todd; had:
79—Joseph Daniel, b. Aug. 15, 1923.
- 54—Dercy Ross married, 1918, Melvin Haggerty; had:
80—Richard Ross Haggerty.
- 55—Amy Ross married, 1920, Raymond Bristol; had:
81—Charlotte May, b. 1921.

CHAPTER VII.

EBENEZER SLOCUM HARDING

EBENEZER SLOCUM HARDING was born in Luzerne county, Penn., August 23, 1798. Came to Ohio in 1820, resided in Richland county until about 1834 when he removed to LaPorte county, Indiana. Moved to Benton county, Iowa in 1854. Was first married to Mary (Polly) Webster June 21, 1821. She was born April 3, 1801, died April 28, 1844; married, 2nd, Naomi Wilson, June 8, 1845; had nine children by first wife and two by second wife. He died at the home of his daughter, Lydia Meeker, at Cleveland, Sibley county, Minn., April 22, 1882.

He was an Old School Baptist preacher of no mean ability. It might be said of him that he never grew old; he always took an active interest in the pleasures and pursuits of the young and was respected and beloved by both young and old alike. He was a strong, vigorous old man and retained his mental faculties until the last. His children were:

- 1—Charles Webster, b. April 7, 1822, d. March 9, 1906.
- 2—Lydia, b. May 21, 1824, d. July 2, 1889.
- 3—John Philip, b. March 21, 1826, d. Oct. 19, 1828.
- 4—Phoebe, b. Jan. 3, 1828, d. Aug. 2, 1829.
- 5—Elvira, b. Jan. 29, 1830, d. in infancy.
- 6—Lemuel J., b. Jan. 19, 1832, d. May 8, 1844.
- 7—Lawrence G., b. Dec. 17, 1833.
- 8—James Edmund, b. Feb. 26, 1836, d. Feb. 19, 1908.
- 9—Ebenezer, b. Nov. 30, 1837, d. Feb. 13, 1838.
- 10—Ebenezer Slocum, b. Feb. 7, 1839.
- 11—Mary, b. Sept. 13, 1841.
- 12—Welthy, b. May 30, 1850.
- 13—Winfield Scott, b. Jan. 13, 1853.

-
- 1—Charles Webster Harding married, Oct. 1, 1844, Esther T. Jones (b. Aug. 6, 1829, d. Nov. 7, 1895); had:
 - 14—Maretta, b. May 30, 1846, d. Dec. 8, 1864.
 - 15—Sherman A., b. May 15, 1850.
 - 16—Charles C., b. Sept. 7, 1852.
 - 17—William H., b. March 1, 1855, d. Feb. 16, 1907.

40—Frank.

41—Jessie.

11—Mary Harding married, Sept., 1864, Franklin Parker;
had:

42—Arthur, had Harold, Josephine and Ruth.

43—Lydia (Johnson), had Hallie.

44—Alva.

45—Abbie (Morrison), had Victor, Minnie, Winnie,
Richard, Ralph, Floyd and Nellie.

12—Welthy W. Harding married Frank Brainard (d. 1916).

15—Sherman A. Harding married, Feb. 7, 1871, Rita B. Vor-
hes; had:

Fred,

Esther,

Merrit,

Chester.

16—Charles Carroll Harding married, April 21, 1878, Lydia
M. Meeker (26); had:

46—Jay Ebenezer, b. March 10, 1880.

47—DeForest Webster, b. July 28, 1885.

48—Carroll Clayton, b. Feb. 27, 1895.

17—William H. Harding married, July 4, 1881, Estelle L.
Hess; had:

49—Ernest H., b. Aug. 23, 1882.

50—Esther, b. Sept. 3, 1886.

19—Asaph B. Harding married, October 1, 1885, Amelia E.
Siegel; had:

51—Charles F., b. Aug. 19, 1886.

52—Etta, b. July 2, 1889, d. Jan. 8, 1892.

53—Bertha, b. Dec. 18, 1892, d. June 21, 1900.

54—Edward E., b. Feb. 18, 1902.

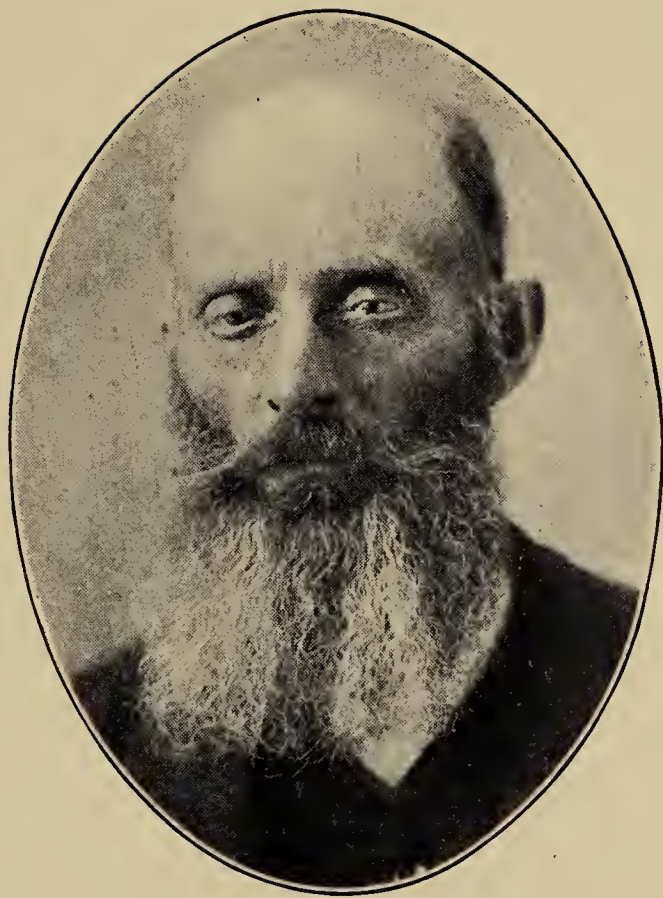
55—John A., b. Jan. 13, 1909.

21—George Franklin Harding married, January 12, 1896,
Stella R. Hallock; had:

56—Esther Melvina, b. Aug. 26, 1900.

- 23—Wesley Webster Reeve married Sarah V. Brown; had:
- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 57—May, | 58—Amos, |
| 59—Howard, | 60—Anna, |
| 61—Eddie, | 62—Susie, |
| 63—Lawrence, | 64—Florence, |
| 65—Elmer, | 66—Myron. |
- 24—Elvira M. Reeve married, Dec. 20, 1868, Geo. W. Brown; had:
- 67—William Reeve (married Lorena Davis).
 68—Harry E.
 69—Ernest M.
 70—G. Elmer, married Victoria DuVall.
 71—Frank H.
 72—Elva, died in infancy.
- 26—Lydia M. Meeker, married Chas. Carroll Harding (See 16).
- 27—Edmond Lawrence Meeker married, Sept. 21, 1881, Elizabeth S. Matheny; had:
- 73—Minnie Elvira, b. Sept. 28, 1882.
 74—Hettie May, b. June 5, 1884.
 75—Ernest Edmond, b. April 7, 1886.
 76—Grace Lydia, b. June 22, 1888.
 77—Carrie E., b. March 30, 1890.
 78—William Raymond, b. March 25, 1893.
 79—Harry C., b. Dec. 1, 1896.
 80—Clifford Alson, b. April 24, 1902.
-
- 46—Jay Ebenezer Harding married, April 21, 1910, Mary Atkinson; had:
- 81—Charlotte Lydia, b. Jan. 17, 1911.
- 47—DeForest Harding married, Nov. 27, 1912, Lena Gertrude Baskett; had:
- 82—Howard Everett, b. Nov. 8, 1913.
 83—Glenn Arthur, b. March 4, 1915.
 84—Enid Elaine, b. July 24, 1917.
 85—Kenneth Leslie, b. Oct. 26, 1919.
- 48—Carroll Clayton Harding married, April 12, 1917, Elsie May Ross; had:
- 86—Richard Ross, b. July 5, 1918.
 87—Mary Carol, b. Jan. 26, 1922.

-
- 50—Esther M. Harding married, Sept. 8, 1913, George E. Beckwith; had:
88—Charles E., b. Sept. 10, 1914.
89—Ellis G., b. Dec. 14, 1918.
90—Walter H., b. Sept. 30, 1920.
-
- 51—Charles F. Harding married, June 16, 1912, Muriel A. Hudson; had:
91—Muriel Myrtle, b. Jan. 18, 1918.
-
- 56—Esther Melvina Harding married, June 22, 1921, Elmer Wulf; had:
92—Peter Franklin, b. May, 1922.
-
- 73—Minnie Elvira Meeker married, June 27, 1906, Fred A. Baker; had:
93—Elizabeth, b. Feb. 5, 1908.
- 74—Hettie May Meeker married, 1905, Thomas I. Lowe; had:
94—Carl M., b. Dec. 3, 1906.
95—Donald E., b. Dec. 6, 1907.
96—Ruth E., b. Oct. 5, 1913.
97—Darrel T., b. April 6, 1916.
- 75—Ernest Edmond Meeker, married, Oct. 1, 1912, Gladis Johnson; had:
98—Elton C., b. Feb. 12, 1914.
99—Carroll E., b. April, 1916.
100—Helen, b. Oct. 22, 1918.
- 76—Grace Lydia Meeker married, Oct. 1, 1913, Wayne E. Sabin; had:
101—Nina Elva, b. Dec. 30, 1914.
102—Brewster W., b. Jan. 1, 1919.
103—Virginia Grace, b. Jan. 18, 1922.
- 77—Carrie E. Meeker, married, Sept. 15, 1909, Wm. I. DeWitt; had:
104—Lawrence W., b. Dec. 10, 1910.
105—Dorris H., b. Aug. 16, 1913.
106—Willard M., b. July 25, 1916.
107—Elinor Patrica, b. March 29, 1918.
- 78—William Raymond Meeker married, Oct. 2, 1920, Clara Grace Woodford; had:
108—Betty Virginia, b. -----



Lemuel Jackson Harding



Mahlon A. Dickerson



Clifton H. Dickerson

CHAPTER VIII.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HARDING

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HARDING was born in Susquehanna county, Penn., August 6, 1802. He came with his parents to Richland county, Ohio in 1820; there he learned the trade of carpenter and millright. He was a lifelong member of the O. S. Baptist church and occasionally officiated as pastor. He died in Crawford county, Ohio, April 3, 1838, and his remains now rest in the old burying grounds at Blooming Grove (Corsica). He was married in 1824 to Anna Jackson, who was born in 1800 and died in February, 1890. Had:

- 1—Lemuel Jackson, b. Jan. 7, 1826, d. Aug. 26, 18_____.
- 2—Benjamin Franklin, b. Dec. 30, 1829, d. Jan. 9, 1887.
- 3—Phylena, b. Dec. 28, 1830, d. May 4, 1863.
- 4—Phoebe.
- 5—Joseph W., b. March 20, 1836, d. Nov. 11, 1896.

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- 1—Lemuel Harding married, Feb. 14, 1858, Susan Matilda Hoon (d. March 28, 1904); had:
 - 6—Ida J., b. Dec. 8, 1858, d. Jan. 4, 1859.
 - 7—Eldridge T., b. Feb. 6, 1860.
 - 8—Mary Alice, b. Oct. 6, 1864.
 - 9—Jesse F., b. July 28, 1866.
 - 10—Anna M., b. Aug. 26, 1868, d. Aug. 9, 1873.
 - 11—Edward E., b. Feb. 28, 1873, d. Nov. 9, 1874.
 - 12—Stella M., b. May 20, 1876.

- 2—Benjamin Franklin Harding, married, 1850, ---- Irving, (d. 1856); 2nd, Jan. 28, 1858, Mary Teeter (d. July 27, 1911); only one child by first marriage; had:
 - 13—William, b. Oct. 28, 1851, d. 1876.
 - 14—Anna Augusta, b. Aug. 1, 1859, d. March 24, 1861.
 - 15—Mary Udora, b. Jan. 27, 1862.
 - 16—Barbara Capitola, b. March 25, 1864, d. Feb. 4, 1898.
 - 17—Joseph Franklin, b. Feb. 7, 1866.
 - 18—Francis Amelia, b. Jan. 5, 1873, d. Sept. 27, 1873.
 - 19—Sarah Ann (Applegate), b. Jan. 27, 1875.

-
- 3—Phylena A. Harding married, Oct. 1, 1848, Ziba W. Palmer; had:
- 20—Ebenezer W., b. Oct. 8, 1849, d. Oct. 9, 1849.
 - 21—Benjamin F., b. Jan. 12, 1851, d. Jan. 13, 1851.
 - 22—Alice E., b. Aug. 11, 1852.
 - 23—Welthy A., b. June 29, 1854.
 - 24—Isabel J., b. June 3, 1856, d. March 28, 1857.
 - 25—Phoebe Adelia, b. Jan. 8, 1860, d. Jan. 11, 1907.
- 5—Joseph W. Harding served throughout the Civil War; attained the rank of Captain of Co. E, 9th Indiana Vol. Inft; was wounded at battle of Shiloh; married, Aug. 29, 1864, Mary Ann Hoon (d. Sept. 11, 1909); had:
- 26—Eva Matilda, b. Aug. 11, 1865.
 - 27—Frederick Chauncey, b. July 2, 1867, d. 1907.
 - 28—Clara Elizabeth, b. Dec. 27, 1868, d. Dec. 17, 1907.
 - 29—George W., b. June 11, 1874.
 - 30—Grace Viola, b. Nov. 1876, d. 1877.
 - 31—John Sylvester, b. Aug. 7, 1878, d. Nov. 1904.
 - 32—Jessie Josephine, b. Dec. 2, 1886.
-
- 8—M. Alice Harding married, Jan. 1, 1887, Oscar M. Rittenburg; had:
- 33—Nellie M. (Burton), b. Oct. 20, 1887.
 - 34—William Leonard, b. July 4, 1890.
- 9—Jesse F. Harding married, Nov. 13, 1896, Hattie Johnson (d. Feb. 13, 1898); had:
- 35—Bert E., b. Dec. 5, 1897.
- 12—Stella M. Harding married, Dec. 6, 1898, James R. Miller; had:
- 36—Ruth (Purscell), b. Sept. 20, 1901.
 - 37—Myrtle A., b. July 13, 1903.
-
- 15—Mary U. Harding married, March 5, 1877, Calvin C. Jones; had:
- 38—William F., b. March 26, 1878.
 - 39—Ida May, b. April 27, 1880, d. Aug. 19, 1880.
 - 40—Abraham, b. Sept. 18, 1883, d. Oct. 11, 1883.
 - 41—Mary Estelle, b. Sept. 27, 1884, d. Dec. 4, 1911.
 - 42—Sarah Alice (Duckwiler), b. Dec. 30, 1889.

16—Barbara Capitola Harding married, 1880, Moyle Hammond; had:
43—William Harding, b. 1883.

17—Joseph Franklin Harding married, July 3, 1894, Ina Walker; had:
44—Paul Edsel, b. March 13, 1897.
45—Ada Ruth (Hackensmith), b. Jan. 20, 1899.
46—Russell Glenn, b. May 24, 1901.
47—Kenneth Eldred, b. March 24, 1906.

22—Alice E. Palmer married, March 14, 1878, Andrew B. Renner; had:
48—Lulu May (Post-Fogleman), b. Dec. 16, 1878.
49—John P., b. April 29, 1883, d. Aug. 28, 1884.
50—Arthur B., b. April 23, 1887, d. Feb. 16, 1906.

25—Phoebe A. Palmer married, Oct. 12, 1881, J. C. Maltby; had:
51—Mattie Alice (Seufert), b. July 4, 1891.
52—Myrtle (Keene), b. Jan. 22, 1894.

26—Eva Matilda Harding married, 1882, Peter Uerling; had:
53—Margaret Estelle (Sheeley), b. 1883.
54—Anthony Harrison, b. May 26, 1888, d. April 22, 1910.
55—Harry Harding, b. Feb. 12, 1898.
56—Lamoyne Joseph, b. March 30, 1901.

28—Clara Elizabeth Harding married, July 13, 1890, David W. Tyler; had:
57—Carl Delbert, b. Jan. 18, 1892, d. June 19, 1915.
58—Roy C., b. Aug. 6, 1893.
59—J. Albert, b. July 13, 1895.
60—Harry C., b. Feb. 7, 1897.

29—George W. Harding, married Anna J. Padjett; had:
61—Ray Joseph, b. May 31, 1904.
62—Eva May, b. May 9, 1905.
63—Earl George, b. June 6, 1907.

-
- 32—Jessie Josephine Harding married, Sept. 1, 1908, Joseph Stanley Steele; had:
- 64—John Chauncey, b. Aug. 7, 1909.
 - 65—Anna Clarabel, b. May 20, 1911.
 - 66—Betha Meryl, b. Nov. 23, 1912.
 - 67—Frances Evelyn, b. Aug. 3, 1915.
-
- 33—Nellie M. Rittenburg married, June 16, 1908, Joseph F. Burton; had:
- 68—Glenn W. Burton, b. May 5, 1910.
- 34—William L. Rittenburg married, Aug. 6, 1913, Ella E. Mecham; had:
- 69—Eunice Rittenburg, b. June 6, 1914.
 - 70—Mildred Rittenburg, b. Sept. 10, 1917.
 - 71—Thelma Rittenburg, b. Sept. 4, 1919.
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- 35—Bert E. Harding married, Dec. 4, 1920, Mary Hess; had:
- 72—Florence T., b. Oct. 6, 1921.
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- 38—William F. Jones married, July 31, 1900, Ida May Nelson; 2nd, April 14, 1912, Hazel Gage; had:
- 73—Alberta E. Jones, b. May 24, 1901.
 - 74—Althea E. Jones, b. July 24, 1903.
 - 75—Etta E. Jones, b. Jan. 13, 1913.
 - 76—Floyd C. Jones, b. Aug. 8, 1915.
 - 77—Francis L. Jones, b. Feb. 15, 1919.
- 41—Mary Estelle Jones married, June 14, 1905, Benhart Birkenfeld (d. March 13, 1912); had:
- 78—Calvin Birkenfeld, b. April 19, 1906.
 - 79—Adelbert Birkenfeld, b. Oct. 6, 1907.
 - 80—Elva E. Birkenfeld, b. June 9, 1909.
 - 81—Eudora Birkenfeld, b. July 10, 1911.
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- 52—Myrtle Maltby married, May 31, 1913, Clarence J. Keene; had:
- 82—Clarence J. Keene, Jr., b. March 19, 1914.
 - 83—Dorris Mattie Keene, b. April 4, 1917.
 - 84—Garnet Muriel Keene, b. Jan. 5, 1922.

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- 53—Margaret Estelle Uerling married, June 19, 1904, James W. Sheeley; had:
- 85—John Rodger Sheeley, b. June 8, 1905.
 - 86—James Sheeley, b. Sept. 9, 1909.
 - 87—Anthony Sheeley, b. May 9, 1911.
 - 88—Kathryn Sheeley, b. March 23, 1914.
 - 89—Evelyn M. Sheeley, b. March 11, 1918.
 - 90—Mary Sheeley, b. Feb. 16, 1922.
 - 91—Martha Sheeley, b. Feb. 16, 1922.
- 56—Lamoyne J. Uerling married, June 7, 1920, Jean Forsythe; had:
- 92—Dora Jean Uerling, b. Dec. 21, 1921.
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- 58—Roy C. Tyler married, July 30, 1914, Eva Gould; had:
- 93—Pauline E. Tyler, b. July 27, 1915.
 - 94—Delbert A. Tyler, b. April 30, 1917.
 - 95—Virginia M. Tyler, b. Sept. 10, 1919.

CHAPTER IX.

HILAH HARDING WEBSTER

HILAH HARDING was born at Clifford, Susquehanna county, Penn., April 10, 1805. Married, in Richland county, Ohio, October 21, 1821, to Amos Gillet Webster, who was born March 31, 1799, at Locke, Cayuga county, N. Y. He served as a substitute in the War of 1812, and enlisted Aug. 24, 1814, in Capt. Joseph Cone's company of N. Y. Militia; discharged at Batavia, N. Y., Nov. 8, 1814; he was of the sixth generation in direct descent from Gov. John Webster, Colonial governor of Massachusetts. Shortly after the close of the War of 1812 he removed to Richland county, Ohio, where he was married, and where five of his children were born; in 1834 the family removed to LaPorte county, Ind., where the remaining three children were born. Both died at Perry, Iowa, Amos dying Jan. 27, 1879, Hilah Sept. 13, 1877. Had:

- 1—Westley Lobdell, b. Sept. 24, 1823, d. May 16, 1878.
- 2—Welcome Alexander, b. Feb. 17, 1826, d. April 6, 1844.
- 3—Wilson James, b. Feb. 25, 1828, d. Feb. 6, 1866.
- 4—Hilah Jane, b. April 19, 1830, d. Jan. 14, 1904.
- 5—William Wirt, b. Sept. 24, 1832, d. July 9, 1884.
- 6—Celestia, b. June 27, 1835, d. Aug. 22, 1835.
- 7—Zoradia, b. April 23, 1837, d. June 1, 1837.
- 8—Amos Gillet, b. July 14, 1841.

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- 1—Westley Lobdell Webster married, April 5, 1849, Ruth Helen Cole (b. July 21, 1833, d. Jan. 29, 1914); had:
 - 9—Helen Jane, b. Feb. 9, 1850.
 - 10—Linda Hortense, b. July 7, 1851, d. Sept. 19, 1876.
 - 11—Westley Franklin, b. Sept. 23, 1853, d. Oct. 15, 1853.
 - 12—Ada Lillian, b. April 19, 1859.
 - 13—Ella Dora, b. Feb., 1861, d. Sept. 8, 1861.
 - 14—Alta Bee, b. April 24, 1864.
 - 15—Cora Mabel, b. May 17, 1867, d. April 6, 1868.
 - 3—Wilson James Webster married, March 17, 1850, Mary Ann McKellips; had:
 - 16—Edwin, b. Aug. 25, 1858.
 - 17—Emma, b. March 3, 1860.

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- 4—Hilah Jane Webster married, Oct. 17, 1847, John H. Willis; had:
- 18—Welcome Henry, b. Aug. 8, 1848, d. Jan. 18, 1849.
 - 19—Lydia Zoradia, b. June 23, 1850, d. Jan. 18, 1917.
 - 20—John Quincy Adams, b. Aug. 11, 1852.
 - 21—Florence Evelyn, b. Aug. 12, 1855, d. April 25, 1875.
 - 22—Westley Lindsay, b. May 9, 1858, d. Oct. 12, 1873.
 - 23—Estella, b. Oct. 21, 1864.
 - 24—Luella, b. Oct. 21, 1864, d. July 23, 1865.
 - 25—Anna Macy, b. June 24, 1867, d. March 20, 1919.
 - 26—Leroy Webster, b. Dec. 20, 1873, d. March 23, 1876.
- 5—William Wirt Webster married, Oct. 17, 1855, Margaret Ann Cockerill (b. July 24, 1838, d. May 11, 1921); was a member of Co. K, 73d Ind. Vol. Inft., in Civil War, enlisting Aug. 13, 1862, discharged April 20, 1863. No children to this union.
- 8—Amos Gillet Webster married, Nov. 11, 1868, Phila Letitia Romans (b. July 24, 1838); was also a member of Co. K, 73d Ind. Vol. Inft., enlisting at same time as his brother; attorney-at-law, Judge of County Court, Douglas Co., Colo. No children to this union.
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- 9—Helen Jane Webster married, Oct. 13, 1870, William Scott Bhymer (b. Aug. 15, 1844); he was a member of 87th Ind. Vol. Inft. and served about four years in Civil War. Had:
- 27—Fred, b. Aug. 2, 1871, d. May 19, 1911.
 - 28—LeRoy, b. Nov. 30, 1872.
- 12—Ada Lillian Webster married, Jan. 2, 1877, James Franklin Kimble (b. Oct. 18, 1855); had:
- 29—Ralph, b. June 14, 1880.
 - 30—Percy, b. Feb. 11, 1882, d. Feb. 21, 1889.
 - 31—Glenn, b. Feb. 3, 1884.
 - 32—Fred, b. June 3, 1886.
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- 14—Alta Bee Webster married, July 8, 1885, Emerson Levi Reynolds; had:
- 79—Westley Anderson, b. Oct. 24, 1886, d. Nov. 11, 1902.
 - 80—Mildred Lucinda, b. Dec. 2, 1890.

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- 16—Edwin Webster married, Anna Chandler; had:
33—Fred.
34—Bessie (Heath) had Dorothea.
- 17—Emma Webster married, October 5, 1879, Abraham Davis (d. Jan. 21, 1890); 2nd, March 11, 1892, William T. Douglas (b. Feb. 2, 1855); had:
35—Rodney Earl Davis, b. Feb. 5, 1881.
36—Hall Ernest Davis, b. Nov. 1, 1882.
37—Hartsell Clare Davis, b. Aug. 29, 1884.
38—Ethel Udine Davis, b. June 28, 1887.
39—Margaret Ann Douglas, b. Dec. 21, 1893.
40—Hazel Douglas, b. Nov. 21, 1896.
41—Delbert Dale Douglas, b. March 16, 1898.
42—Ora Vance Douglas, b. June 19, 1900, d. Jan. 21, 1918.
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- 19—Lydia Zoradia Willis married, Dec. 25, 1867, Lewis B. Thornburg (b. Feb. 18, 1848, d. Jan. 18, 1917); had:
81—Westley Arthur, b. Oct. 8, 1868.
82—Orvis Everett, b. Nov. 19, 1870.
83—Harry E., m. Eunice Gilmore.
84—Merle Willis, b. May 12, 1875, d. Jan. 6, 1876.
85—Luella Evelyn, b. Jan. 19, 1880.
86—Lewis Elvin, b. Jan. 19, 1880.
87—Hilah Jane, b. Jan. 6, 1885.
- 20—John Quincy Adams Willis married, April 9, 1879, Sarah Ann Maulsby; had:
43—Linnie Hortense, b. Dec. 16, 1879, d. Aug. 31, 1917.
44—Vera Catherine, b. Jan. 27, 1890.
45—Fred Maulsby, b. Aug. 31, 1891.
- 21—Florence Evelyn Willis married, April 30, 1874, Ira G. Pattee; had:
46—Westley Wallace, b. April 19, 1875.
- 23—Estella Willis married, May 7, 1884, John H. Pattee (d. March, 1894); 2nd, Oct., 1921, Walter E. Shotwell; had:
47—Luella, b. April 12, 1885 (m. Carl W. Rawson).
48—Gladys, b. Jan. 21, 1888, d. March 28, 1894.

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- 25—Anna Macy Willis married, Feb. 3, 1885, Walter E. Shotwell; had:
 49—Leroy Willis, b. Jan. 23, 1886.
 50—Ruth, b. June 10, 1890, d. Aug., 1890.
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- 28—LeRoy Bhymer married, July 22, 1907, Maud Elouise Gregory (b. Oct. 2, 1874); had:
 51—Howard Webster, b. June 13, 1909.
 52—Helen Jeanette, b. Aug. 10, 1910.
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- 29—Ralph Kimble married, Nov. 28, 1907, Minnie Plowman; had:
 Enola, b. Jan. 25, 1909, d. Aug. 9, 1909.
 53—Leslie, b. April 23, 1917.
- 31—Glenn Kimble married, Sept. 14, 1904, Eva Holcomb (b. Nov. 11, 1883); had:
 54—Mary Lillian (Culbertson), b. Aug. 4, 1905.
 55—Percy Leroy, b. Oct. 24, 1906.
 56—Geary Dale, b. July 22, 1910.
- 32—Fred Kimble married, Sept. 19, 1906, Cora Miller (b. Aug. 18, 1886); had:
 57—Robert Benton, b. July 5, 1923.
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- 35—Rodney Earl Davis married Cora Dass; had:
 58—Merle Cecil, b. Jan. 7, 1906.
 59—Oliver Wilson, b. Aug. 19, 1907, d. Nov. 4, 1910.
 60—Mabel Undine, b. April 4, 1910.
 61—Hazel Elizabeth, b. May 23, 1912.
 62—Orvil Lee, b. April 21, 1917.
- 40—Hazel Douglas married, Sept. 19, 1917, Harry Ball; had:
 63—Udine, b. Oct. 23, 1918.
 64—Maidia, b. Jan. 7, 1920.
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- 43—Linnie Hortense Willis married, April 8, 1914, Elijah J. Such; had:
 65—Isabel.
 66—Thomas.

44—Vera Catherine Willis married, Oct. 26, 1910, Frank A. Reese; had:

67—Harman Willis, b. March 14, 1914.

68—Richard Webster, b. March 17, 1916, d. Dec. 7, 1918.

69—Roger Walter Ellsworth, b. July 6, 1918.

70—Hilah Jane, b. March 24, 1922.

45—Fred Maulsby Willis married, Sept. 15, 1914, Meredith Clark; had:

71—Meredith Emily, b. Sept. 4, 1916.

72—Elizabeth Ann, b. March 9, 1918.

73—Mary Gene, b. Aug. 3, 1921.

46—Westley Wallace Pattee married, 1902, Grace Harmon; had:

74—John Willis, b. Sept., 1903.

75—Sarah Evelyn, b. Dec., 1904.

76—William Westley, b. 1913.

77—Hilah Jane, b. July 14, 1916.

78—Josephine, b. 1918.

81—Westley Arthur Thornburg married, May 3, 1891, Hattie C. Spencer had: Walter S., b. Jan. 23, 1893, and Helen Marie, b. Oct. 24, 1897. Walter S. Thornburg married, May 17, 1917, Blanche Russell and had Lawrence Westley, b. July 3, 1918, and Arthur Martin, b. Oct. 10, 1919. Helen Marie Thornburg married, Oct. 27, 1921, Harry Ellet.

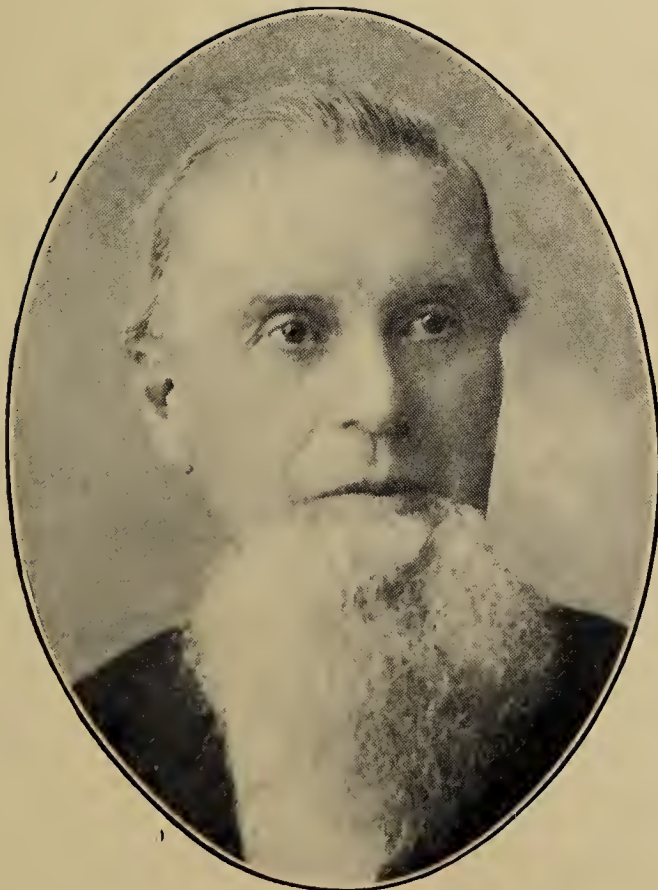
82—Orvis Everett Thornburg married, Mary Munn, and had Quincy and Henry Lewis.

85—Luella Evelyn Thornburg married, Aug. 4, 1897, Earl G. White; had: Jane Evelyn, b. June 10, 1898, m. Raymond H. Wilcox; Harry Earl, b. June 29, 1905, d. June 30, 1905.

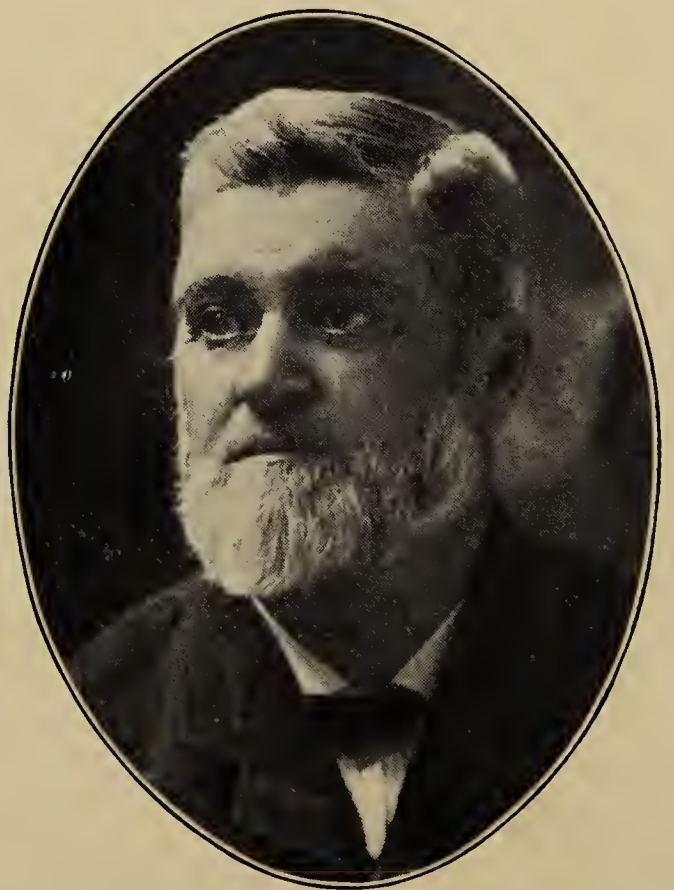
87—Hilah Jane Thornburg married, 1902, Clinton M. Wilcox; 2nd, 1906, John Carl Atkins; had: Ruth Willis, b. 1903, Myrtle Ellen, b. 1905.



John and Elvira Harding



Thomas Dunham Harding



Lucius Tripp Harding

CHAPTER X.

JOHN HARDING

JOHN HARDING was born at Clifford, Penn., July 11, 1807; died at LaPorte, Ind., April 22, 1884. He was married to Elvira Dunham, Feb. 10, 1830. As a young man he had learned the trade of wagon maker and worked at that trade for three years following his marriage. In July, 1834, he left the Harding settlement in Richland Co., Ohio, and with his wife and two sons went to LaPorte County, Indiana, where he laid claim to 80 acres of government land and built a log house thereon. This land he later purchased from the government. At the time the family located here the country was sparsely settled and there was an Indian village about two miles from his cabin. John Harding resided in that county for the remainder of his life with the exception of two years spent in Kansas, and a great many of his descendants still reside there.

Elvira Dunham was born in Cayuga county, New York, in 1812, and died at her home in LaPorte, Ind., April, 1889.

Mrs. Edith Harding Pyle, Long Beach, Cal., contributes the following reminiscences of her grandfather:

"It was a privilege to have with us many years, at my father's home, my grandfather, John Harding. With appreciation and pleasure I recall the stories of pioneer life of his own and some of his parents' Amos and Phoebe Harding. How my grandfather met for the first time Elvira Dunham, my grandmother, when on a long cross-country journey in 1829 with a drove of cattle on foot from the home in Ohio to the markets of New York; stopping as they did to rest at times for days, one stop chanced to be at an inn kept by pretty Elvira Dunham's grandfather, Gamble, at Cayuga, New York. After several days' rest John resumed his trip east, happy with the promise that upon his return Elvira would join him for the journey home as his wife. This she did, and her wedding trip was a long horseback ride to the wilderness of Ohio.

"The clever activities of Phoebe Tripp, his mother, were interesting. On one occasion at her early home in Pennsylvania, while the neighbors were helping harvest, Phoebe asked Amos to prepare fresh meat for dinner, which he forgot to do. When the hungry men came to the bounteous table, memory of her request

came to Amos as he gazed on a fine roast of lamb. 'Well, Phoebe, where did you get this?' and her reply, 'I just killed and dressed one of the lambs;' whereupon Amos discovered he was short a much-prized young buck.

"Another time she asked for fire-wood, but the need was forgotten by the busy boys. When the menfolks marched in with whetted appetites Phoebe, taking up a fork, walked briskly to the kitchen door where she had a ham hanging in the sun; thrusting the fork into the ham she exclaimed, 'well, it isn't done yet.' There was not another word said, but there was plenty of fire-wood thereafter.

"Telling these little reminiscences, so dear to the child's heart, and treasured with a love and gratefulness to our grandsires who struggled with the problems of how to live that we might and have lived the fulfillment of their efforts. To the bond of kinship I give them."

Children of John and Elvira Harding:

- 1—Thomas Dunham, b. May 22, 1832, d. July 25, 1910.
- 2—Lucius Tripp b. Jan. 29, 1834, d. Aug. 3, 1907.
- 3—William Merritt, b. March 20, 1836.
- 4—James Gamble, b. March 27, 1838, d. Jan. 9, 1846.
- 5—Benjamin A., b. July 22, 1840, d. Sept. 17, 1841.
- 6—Salmon E., b. Sept. 8, 1842, d. Oct. 20, 1863.
- 7—Hugh G., b. Dec. 29, 1846.
- 8—Sarah Elvira, b. June 22, 1849.
- 9—Mary E., b. Sept. 1, 1851.
- 10—Martha J., b. May 24, 1858, d. May 23, 1880.

1—Thomas D. Harding married, May 25, 1854, Phoebe Cross; had:

- 11—Elvira C., b. March 20, 1855, d. Sept. 20, 1856.
- 12—Eva P. (Payne), b. March 8, 1856.
- 13—Oscar A., b. Sept. 15, 1857.
- 14—Ada E., b. Aug. 24, 1859, d. April 12, 1917.
- 15—Emma B., b. Oct. 24, 1860.
- 16—Franklin, W., b. May 3, 1862.
- 17—Lucius M., b. Feb. 22, 1865.
- 18—Elizabeth M. (McLane), b. Oct. 16, 1866.
- 19—Nettie H., b. Feb. 19, 1868, d. Feb. 2, 1869.
- 20—Sylvia M., b. Jan. 25, 1870.
- 21—Mary E., b. July 25, 1871, d. Aug. 22, 1871.

- 22—Jasper, b. Nov. 19, 1872, d. Feb. 20, 1873.
 23—Judson, b. Nov. 19, 1872, d. Feb. 21, 1873.
 24—Thomas D., b. Aug. 12, 1874.
 25—Winifred M., b. March 11, 1878.
- 2—Lucius Tripp Harding enlisted in the Twenty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry in 1864 and served until the close of the war. Married, Feb. 16, 1852, Sarah Ann Baker, (b. June 13, 1833, d. April 10, 1902); had:
 26—Rosetta Elvira, b. Jan. 19, 1853.
 27—Ella Catherine, b. April 18, 1855, d. April 25, 1894.
 28—William Edgar, b. Feb. 15, 1857.
 29—John Henry, b. Aug. 12, 1860.
 30—Elmer Ephriam, b. Dec. 27, 1862, d. Nov. 2, 1909.
 31—Hugh G., b. March 20, 1864.
 32—Minnie May, b. May 21, 1867.
 33—Sarah Edith, b. April 18, 1870.
 34—Chauncey Sylvester, b. April 2, 1874.
 35—Flora Lee, b. Oct. 29, 1876.
 36—Lynda T., b. Nov. 15, 1877.
 37—Arley, b. Oct. 20, 1881, d. 1883.
- 6—Salmon E. Harding was killed at the battle of Chica-maugua, Sept. 20, 1863.
- 8—Sarah Elvira Harding married, Sept. 1, 1868, Seymour J. Stillson; had:
 38—Leonard J., b. May 20, 1869, d. Jan. 10, 1870.
 39—Chauncey J., b. Oct. 22, 1870.
 40—Rosetta E., b. Jan. 13, 1872.
 41—Lucius R., b. Nov. 22, 1876.
 42—Edna V., b. July 19, 1881.
 43—Florence B., b. Jan. 13, 1884.
 44—Thomas E., b. July 30, 1891, d. Feb. 1, 1907.
- 9—Mary E. Harding married, May 31, 1869, Byron F. Cross; had:
 45—Ora Bell (Neal-LeRoy), b. Jan. 18, 1873.
 46—Ernest B., b. Sept. 1, 1874.
 47—John Coredon, b. May 14, 1880.
 48—Belva L. (Gotto), b. April 11, 1884.
 49—Vinal B., b. March 20, 1886, d. Feb. 22, 1906.

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- 13—Oscar A. Harding married, July 7, 1886, Christina Werling; had:
50—Laura Irene, b. July 21, 1887, d. April 17, 1890.
51—Lloyd George, b. March 20, 1889, d. Aug. 3, 1897.
52—Hazel Bell, b. Oct. 3, 1892.
53—Harry E., b. Oct. 3, 1892, d. March 5, 1898.
54—Mayme A. (Schubert), b. Oct. 8, 1899.
- 14—Ada E. Harding married, May 29, 1878, Charles H. Lang; had:
55—Oscar Bird, b. Feb. 28, 1880, d. July 16, 1910.
56—Lee Earl, b. Oct. 17, 1882.
57—Ada May, b. April 20, 1892.
58—Roscoe, b. Nov. 11, 1895, d. March 9, 1901.
59—Phoebe Fern, b. July 19, 1897.
60—Eva Elizabeth, b. March 6, 1898.
- 15—Emma B. Harding married, June 5 1891, William F. Sult; had:
61—Ruama Harding (Cecil), b. Oct. 15, 1894.
62—Lauren Harding, b. July 19, 1897, d. Oct. 12, 1918.
- 16—Franklin W. Harding, married, Jan. 29, 1891, Emma Rubow; had:
63—Otto Franklin, b. Sept. 30, 1892.
64—Blanche, b. Oct. 23, 1898.
- 17—Lucius M. Harding married, March 10, 1887, Inez Mary Kadow; had:
65—Walter Ralph, b. May 28 1888.
66—Lester Elwood, b. July 5, 1890 (m. Edith A. Hollinger).
67—Irene Muriel, b. April 7, 1892.
68—Roland Earl, b. April 7, 1892.
69—Florence Emma, b. Dec. 17, 1894, d. Sept. 29, 1895.
70—Laurence W., b. Dec. 17, 1894, d. Sept. 7, 1895.
71—Kenneth Carrol, b. Jan. 7, 1901.
- 20—Sylvia M. Harding married, Oct. 12, 1892. William Huckins; had:
72—Louise Mildred (Forrester), b. May 14, 1895.

24—Thomas D. Harding married, April 9, 1900, Edith Vail;
had:

73—Richard Elkinton, b. April 13, 1902, d. Sept. 4, 1902.

74—Lloyd Vail, b. April 27, 1903.

26—Rosetta Elvira Harding married, April 4, 1872, Alfred
J. Webster; 2nd, Sept. 28, 1892, Leslie Anthony; had:

75—Rose Glenn (Ferguson), b. Jan. 27, 1873.

76—Dennis Delmar, b. July 1, 1874.

77—Larne Hamilton, b. May 18, 1878, d. Oct. 17, 1914.

27—Ella C. Harding married, Feb. 7, 1878, John H. Hoover
(b. Sept. 30, 1855); had:

78—Altie Maybelle, b. Nov. 13, 1878, d. Dec. 16, 1883.

79—Ernest Isaac, b. July 26, 1881.

80—Edith Myrtle, b. Feb. 10, 1884.

81—Arthur Hubert, b. Jan. 8, 1887.

Infant son, b. and d. April 25, 1894.

28—William E. Harding, married, Oct. 15, 1902, Julia M.
Welch (d. Oct. 20, 1919); had:

82—William Edward, b. Jan. 31, 1904.

83—Lester Theodor, b. Jan. 10, 1905.

29—John Henry Harding married, Nov. 13, 1884, Amelia A.
Hansen (b. Feb. 23, 1862); had:

84—Maude Hansen, b. Aug. 23, 1885, d. Aug. 20, 1886.

85—John Egbert, b. Aug. 17, 1887.

30—Elmer E. Harding married, Oct. 29, 1884, Sarah A.
Swartzell; had:

86—Flora Ellen, b. Oct. 31, 1885, d. Jan. 31, 1911.

87—Elsie Ethel, b. May 8, 1887.

88—Harvey Hiram, b. Sept. 29, 1888.

89—Elma Luella (Scott), b. Oct. 18, 1890.

31—Hugh G. Harding married, March 31, 1897, Mary Helen
Welton; had:

90—Helen G., b. March 8, 1898.

91—Edith Miriam, (Kupferer), b. Oct. 24, 1899.

92—Hugh W., b. Jan. 19, 1902.

93—Charlotte Welton, b. Jan. 11, 1905.

94—Dorothy Inez, b. April 1, 1910.

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- 32—Minnie May Harding married, Jan. 2, 1889, George F. Harding, had:
 95—Lloyd Finley, b. Oct. 31, 1889.
 96—Lois Ellen, b. Sept. 9, 1891.
 97—Edna May, b. Oct. 25, 1893.
- 33—Sarah Edith Harding married, June 27, 1894 Dr. Henry G. Pyle.
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- 40—Rosetta E. Stillson married, Nov. 23, 1897, Samuel Year-out; had:
 98—Clarence, b. Nov. 22, 1898.
 99—Cecil, b. May 15, 1902.
 100—Frederick, b. Aug. 12, 1905.
 101—Thelma, b. Sept. 15, 1913.
- 41—Lucius R. Stillson, married, Aug. 25, 1898, Lacy Walburn; had:
 102—Raymond, b. June 22, 1900.
 103—Rosemond b. Feb. 12, 1911.
- 42—Edna Stillson married, Aug. 24, 1897, Claude Huffman; had:
 104—Helen, b. Sept. 21, 1901.
- 43—Florence Stillson married, May 23, 1902, Oscar Carothers; had:
 105—Madge, b. August 3, 1904.
 106—Earl, b. Nov. 17, 1906.
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- 46—Ernest B. Cross married, May 28, 1894, Lena P. Thompson; had:
 107—Lola F. (Gloye), b. April 1, 1895.
 108—Lester E., b. Dec. 16, 1896.
 109—Fay T., b. Feb. 21, 1906.
 110—Dorris B., b. Sept. 17, 1909.
 110a—Owen W., b. March 13, 1916.
 111—Carrol L., b. Jan. 9, 1919.
- 47—John C. Cross married, Dec. 15, 1897, Elizabeth M. Gibson; had:
 112—Ora Jenevieve, b. July 7, 1899.

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- 52—Hazel Bell Harding married, Nov. 1915, Dr. Jerome Wright; had:
113—Harry Jerome, b. Oct. 29, 1917.
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- 57—Ada May Lang married, April 31, 1910, Frank Larson; had:
114—Dean, b. Jan. 14, 1911, d. Dec., 1915.
115—Orlie, b. Oct. 6, 1912.
116—Leicester, b. Oct. 10, 1914.
117—Dewey, b. Aug. 12, 1915.
118—Cassel, b. Aug. 24, 1916.
- 59—Phoebe F. Lang married, Jan. 8, 1917, Alfred Albertson; had:
119—Mary Catherine, b. Nov. 20, 1918.
120—Richard Earl, b. Dec. 14, 1919.
121—Charles Francis, b. Aug. 21, 1921.
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- 65—Walter R. Harding married, June 26, 1909, August Raffel; had:
122—Clarence Marion, b. May 24, 1910.
123—Howard Earl, b. May 28, 1912.
124—Bernice Inez, b. March 24, 1917.
125—Florence Grace, b. Dec. 6, 1918.
- 67—Irene M. Harding married, Dec. 16, 1915, Martin W. Jantzen; had:
126—Kathleen Ruth, b. Oct. 28, 1916.
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- 76—Dennis D. Webster married, June 29, 1898, Nellie Wilson; had:
127—Pearl Marguerite, b. Jan. 31, 1901, d. Feb. 14, 1901.
128—Helen Irene, b. July 23, 1904.
129—George Leslie, b. Jan. 2, 1906.
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- 79—Ernest I. Hoover married, June 22, 1904, Lillie M. Meinke; had:
130—Bernice Ella A., b. July 7, 1912.
131—Jeanette Katherine, b. July 1, 1916.
- 80—Edith M. Hoover married, Dec. 24, 1904, Cecil D. Thornton (b. June 2, 1874); had:
132—Edith Awilda, b. Jan. 23, 1907.

133—Jackson LaFayette, b. March 2, 1909.

134—Robert Fenton, b. Sept. 23, 1918.

85—John Egbert Harding married, Sept. 23, 1912, Sadie Rogers (b. Feb. 2, 1894); had:

135—John Henry, b. Feb. 8, 1914.

136—Benita Aurelia, b. Jan. 7, 1915.

137—Margaret Jane, b. Feb. 17, 1917.

86—Flora E. Harding married, June 3, 1909, William A. Borders; had:

138—Robert E., b. Jan. 23, 1911.

87—Elsie E. Harding married, Oct. 29, 1907, Nelson H. Leaney; had:

139—Alverta Elsie, b. Dec. 24, 1908.

140—Nadine Helen, b. Nov. 7, 1910.

141—Marion Ruth, b. Feb. 3, 1913.

142—Constance Marie, b. Jan. 10, 1918.

90—Helen G. Harding married, Feb. 13, 1918, W. C. Ritterkamp; had:

143—Jack Harding, b. Nov. 27, 1919.

95—Lloyd F. Harding married, April 26, 1913, Dorothy M. Heinman; had:

144—Charles Finley, b. Nov. 11, 1918.

145—Florence Ellen, b. Jan. 6, 1921.

96—Lois Ellen Harding married, April 21, 1920, Anthony Rose; had:

146—Gloria Ellen, b. July 6, 1921.

97—Edna May Harding married, Jan. 1, 1916, Wm. John McKie; had:

147—Robert William, b. Nov. 3, 1918, d. same.

148—William John, b. Oct. 22, 1919.

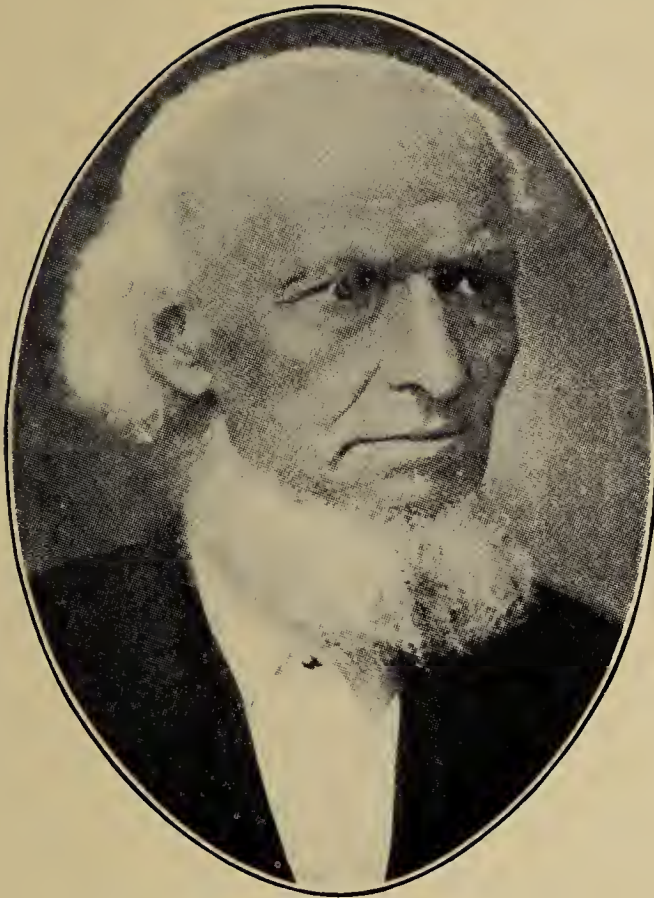
149—George Harding, b. Nov. 7, 1921.

107—Lola F. Cross married, May 6, 1916, Edward H. Gloye; had:

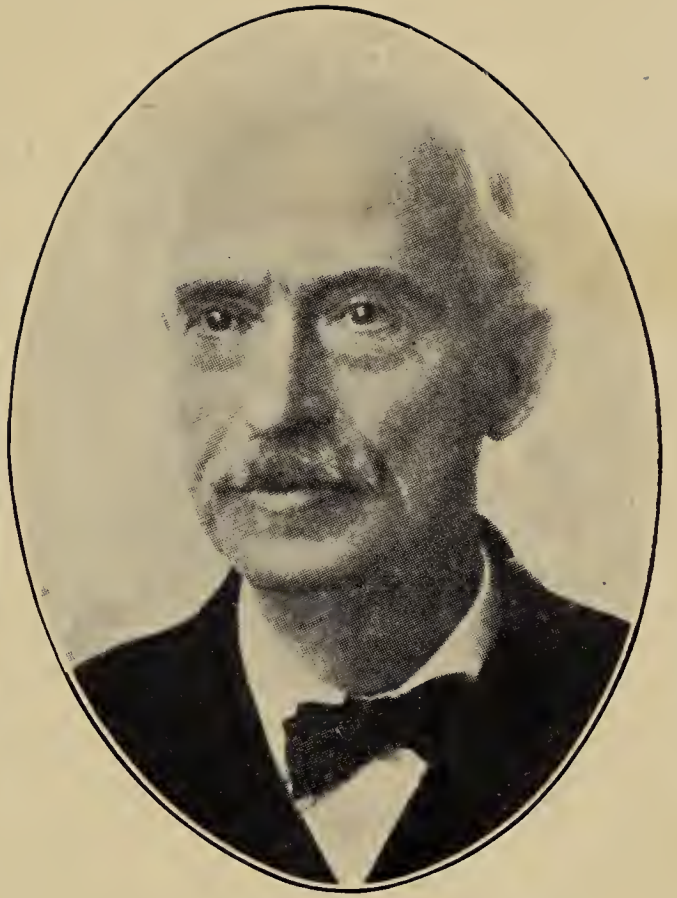
150—Bernice Marie, b. May 24, 1919.

108—Lester E. Cross married, Dec. 26, 1919, Alma Anderson; had:

151—Mardelle, b. Aug. 8, 1921.



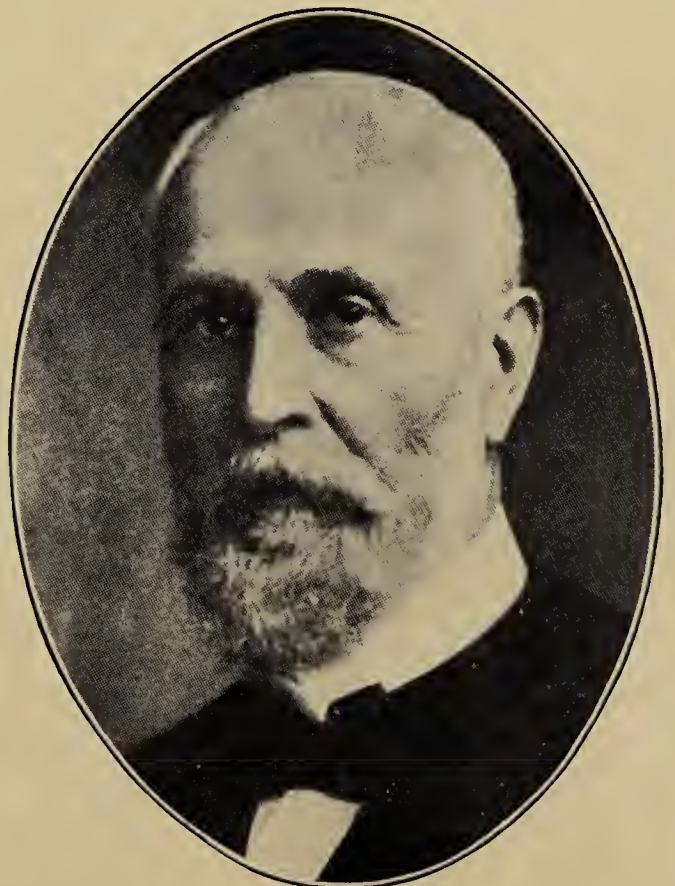
Chauncey C. Harding



Nehemiah S. Harding



Horace H. Harding



Amos Joseph Harding

CHAPTER XI.

CHAUNCEY C. HARDING

CHAUNCEY C. HARDING was born at Clifford Pa., January 14, 1809; died Huron county, Ohio, Dec. 8, 1880; married Feb. 22, 1830, Rachel Story (b. Jan. 22, 1809, d. March 10, 1869).

Chauncey Harding came to Ohio with his parents in 1820; soon after his marriage he settled in Marion county, Ohio. He was a farmer, a Free Will Baptist, and was noted for his liberality in religious matters, being at home in almost any sect of worshipers. Politically, he was a Whig, casting his first vote for Henry Clay in 1832, but became a republican in 1856 and cast his last vote for president for Garfield in 1880; had:

- 1—Nehemiah Story, b. Feb. 12, 1831.
- 2—Horace Hosford, b. July 31, 1832.
- 3—Harriet Story, b. Nov. 13, 1834.
- 4—Jotham Dutton, b. Sept. 17, 1836, d. Nov. 11, 1862.
- 5—Amos Joseph, b. May 2, 1839, d.
- 6—Hiram Bennet, b. Feb. 27, 1848, d. June 21, 1921.

1—Nehemiah Story Harding married, August 4, 1853, Mary King Baldwin; had:

- 7—Cora Baldwin, b. June 10, 1854.
- 8—Bennet G., b. Jan. 28, 1856, d. in infancy.
- 9—Winona Irwin, b. March 9, 1858.
- 10—Nellie Story, b. May 4, 1860, d. Jan. 22, 1889.
- 11—Grace Harriet, b. Dec. 15, 1863.
- 12—Frederick C., b. Jan. 23, 1865, d. Aug. 17, 1872.
- 13—Edyth May, b. Jan. 13, 1868.
- 14—Alice C., b. Dec. 14, 1870.
- 15—Mary Rachel, b. Nov. 6, 1872.
- 16—Willard Story, b. Feb. 24, 1876.

2—Horace Hosford Harding married, May 2, 1855, Emily Kilbourne (d. Jan. 6, 1856) 2nd, Sept. 17, 1857, Mary F. Webb; had:

- 17—Esther Stella, b. Sept. 17, 1858.
- 18—Fannie W., b. Nov. 17, 1860.
- 19—Paul, b. Nov. 20, 1863.

-
- 3—Harriet Story Harding married, Oct. 19, 1858, John P. Lininger (d. May 28, 1907); had:
20—Ida, b. March 22, 1860.
21—William H., b. Dec. 12, 1862.
22—Horace H., b. May 15, 1869.
- 5—Amos Joseph Harding married, Dec. 20, 1864, Eliza H. Cowden; had:
23—Lucien E., b. Aug. 20, 1865.
24—Albert D., b. March, 1867, d. in infancy.
25—Rachel H., b. May 3, 1870.
26—John C., b. Dec. 4, 1873.
27—Dwight S., b. April 18, 1878.
- 6—Hiram Bennet Harding married, May 7, 1868, Josephine E. Wilson; had:
28—Frank V., b. July 26, 1871, d. in infancy.
29—Edith M., b. Oct. 7, 1873.
30—Nena M., b. March 5, 1876.
31—Weltha W., b. Oct. 14, 1880.
-
- 7—Cora Baldwin Harding married, Oct. 3, 1876, Chas. S. Nash; had:
32—Mabel Harding, b. July 20, 1881, d. April 11, 1900.
33—Elsie Hill, b. June 17, 1885.
- 9—Winona Irwin Harding married, Sept. 19, 1884, Walter D. Hill; had:
34—Edward Harding, b. July 12, 1885.
35—Arthur Story, b. Jan. 5, 1888, d. Oct. 29, 1893.
36—Dorothy, b. July 19, 1890.
37—Donald Eugene, b. June 4, 1893.
38—Mary, b. March 7, 1895.
39—Frederick G., b. Aug. 6, 1896, d. Jan. 5, 1897.
40—Howard H., b. Jan. 8, 1904.
- 10—Nellie Story Harding married, Sept. 19, 1884, D. Wm. Schminke; had:
41—Helen Mary, b. Nov. 2, 1886.
42—Paul Kenneth, b. Oct. 2, 1891.
- 13—Edith May Harding married, Dec. 19, 1895, William N. Decker (d. July 3, 1906); had:
43—Chauncey Harding, b. Dec. 7, 1897.
44—William Nicholas, b. Jan. 14, 1906.

16—Willard Story Harding married, Oct. 19, 1889, Gisine Mary Foss; had:

45—Nehemiah Story, b. Oct. 2, 1900.

46—Weltha, b. April 10, 1906.

17—Esther Stella Harding, married A. S. Deacon; had:

47—Frances, b. Jan. 5, 1890.

18—Fannie W. Harding married, Nov. 17, 1897, Wm. B. Hill.

19—Paul Harding married, Nov. 23, 1901, Margarita Auza; had:

48—Marie, b. March 23, 1903.

49—Stella, b. April 10, 1904.

50—Margarita, b. Dec. 25, 1905.

51—Lucia, b. Jan. 17, 1907.

21—William H. Lininger married, Oct. 24, 1888, Belle Maxfield; had:

52—Herbert K., b. Sept. 20, 1889.

53—Homer Dean, b. Jan. 6, 1895.

54—John Howard, b. Jan. 10, 1897, d. Nov. 9, 1902.

23—Lucian E. Harding married, Oct. 26, 1865, Mary B. Goodsell.

25—Rachel H. Harding married, Dec. 1, 1887, E. M. Ray; 2nd Feb. 2, 1907, R. F. Russell.

26—John C. Harding married, May 23, 1901, Elizabeth Pratt; had:

55—Margaret C., b. May 19, 1903.

56—Elizabeth, b. May 26, 1907.

29—Edith M. Harding married, Oct. 5, 1896, Richard S. Oakford; had:

57—Carl Harding Oakford, b. June 15, 1904.

30—Nena M. Harding married, December 11, 1905, Charles M. Saxon.

31—Weltha W. Harding married, May 7, 1903, Frederick W. Reynolds; had:

58—Reynold Lee, b. Jan. 5, 1907.

CHAPTER XII.

MAHALA HARDING FIELD

MAHALA ANN HARDING, the youngest child of Amos and Phoebe Tripp Harding, was born at Clifford, Penn., June 25, 1813. When seven years of age she came to Richland County, Ohio, with her parents, and there, on October 19, 1834, she was united in marriage to Richard Lorenzo Field (b. May 24, 1808, d. Nov. 8, 1892.) Mahala Field died in Harrison County, Mo., Feb. 26, 1904. They were the parents of 14 children and records have been obtained of 58 grandchildren, 145 g. g. children, and 35 g. g. g. children; had:

- 1—James Edward, b. Aug. 7, 1835, d., 1907.
- 2—Mary Angeline, b. Jan. 27, 1837, d., 1837.
- 3—Mahala Ann, b. May 3, 1838, d., 1839.
- 4—Lorenzo Payne, b. Feb. 28, 1840, d.
- 5—George W., b. April 26, 1841, d., 1881.
- 6—Joseph Warren, b. May 29, 1843, d. 1920.
- 7—Artemissa Jane, b. Dec. 27, 1844.
- 8—John D. Milton, b. Sept. 26, 1846.
- 9—Julius E., b. Jan. 6, 1848, d. 1849.
- 10—Lucius Tripp, b. June 4, 1849, d. 1894.
- 11—Wilson W., b. May 13, 1853, d. 1853.
- 12—Margaret A., b. April 12, 1855, d. 1855.
- 13—Richard Carl, b. Sept. 18, 1858, d. 1921.
- 14—Florence E., b. March 12, 1860, d., 1862.

1—James E. Field married June 7, 1862, Charlotte Elizabeth Caldwell; had:

- 15—Mary E., b. Aug. 13, 1863.
- 16—Augustus Warren, b. July 9, 1865.
- 17—Ettie, b. 1868.

4—Lorenzo P. Field married, April 7, 1866, Lorina Beeson; had:

- 18—Melvina, b. March 8, 1867.

L. P. Field served three years as member of 73d Reg. Indiana Vol. in Civil War.

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- 5—George W. Field married, July 30, 1863, Mary Hester Couchman (b. Apr. 3, 1844, d. March 4, 1918); had:
- 19—Charles M., b. May 30, 1865.
 - 20—William Ellsworth, b. Sept. 9, 1866.
 - 21—Benjamin Amos, b. Dec. 18, 1867.
 - 22—Lawrence, b. Jan. 18, 1869, d. 1869.
 - 23—Sarah Luella, b. July 11, 1871.
 - 24—George Albert, b. Oct. 15, 1873.
 - 25—Martin Ellis, b. April 5, 1875.
 - 26—Minnie Elnora, b. Sept. 22, 1876, d. 1890.
 - 27—Rosetta Belle, b. June 20, 1877.
 - 28—Delbert Louis, b. July 12, 1879.
 - 29—Leonard Edward, b. March 11, 1881, d. 1881.
- 6—Joseph W. Field married, Dec. 24, 1867, Nancy T. Culp (b. March 28, 1847, d. April 9, 1921); had:
- 30—Nellie E., b. Oct. 11, 1868.
 - 31—Lissie E., b. Oct. 28, 1870.
 - 32—Polly L., b. May 14, 1872.
 - 33—Richard D., b. March 4, 1874.
 - 34—Fred Joseph, b. Dec. 28, 1876.
 - 35—Anna L., b. Nov. 4, 1878.
 - 36—Zilpha Inez, b. Aug. 14, 1880.
 - 37—Mary D., b. July 12, 1882.
 - 39—Benjamin Willis, b. Oct. 28, 1884.
 - 40—Nancy Louella, b. July 31, 1886.
 - 41—David Ross, b. Sept. 16, 1888.
 - 42—Percy Ewalt, b. Aug. 9, 1891.
- 7—Artemissa J. Field married, Feb. 18, 1866, Henry Van Duzen; 2nd, 1894, Aug. Redtfeldt; had:
- 43—Florence E., b. Nov. 18, 1866.
 - 44—Richard L., b. Feb. 4, 1868.
 - 45—Enoch A., b. Sept. 22, 1870.
 - 46—Riley A., b. April 20, 1872.
 - 47—Edward A., b. March 17, 1874.
 - 48—Leonard C., b. March 13, 1876, d. 1892.
 - 49—Nancy L., b. Jan. 13, 1879.
 - 50—Samuel C., b. Oct. 31, 1880.
 - 51—Alice M., b. Dec. 15, 1882.
 - 52—Rena M., b. Aug. 6, 1884.
 - 53—William R., b. March 12, 1886.

8—John D. M. Field married, May 18, 1869, Martha J. Stillson; had:

54—Chauncey C., b. Oct. 16, 1871.

55—Everett L., b. May 16, 1875.

56—Florence E., b. June 9, 1877.

57—Alice Gertrude, b. Dec. 2, 1879.

58—Willard H., b. June 24, 1881.

59—Melville G., b. Aug. 3, 1884.

60—Emmet D., b. April 22, 1889.

10—Lucius T. Field married, March 4, 1878, Caroline Melissa Bruce; had:

61—Oscar Leroy, b. Oct. 16, 1879.

62—Ora May, b. July 27, 1881.

63—Effie Jane, b. March 15, 1887.

64—Lawrence Lloyd, b. Aug. 13, 1891.

13—Richard C. Field married, Jan. 6, 1880, Emma N. Walters; had:

65—Minnie M., b. March 20, 1881.

66—Agnes R., b. Aug. 5, 1882.

67—Ernie C., b. March 9, 1884.

68—Ancil Lloyd, b. Sept. 8, 1889.

69—Blanche E., b. June 27, 1893, d. 1904.

70—Lulu Hazel, b. Aug. 17, 1895, d. 1918.

71—Maria Emma, b. Dec. 20, 1897.

72—William Boyce, b. April 19, 1902, d. 1902.

CHAPTER XIII.

ADDENDA.

NOTE—The following matter referring to the family of W. O. P. Harding, (No. 3, Chap. 11) was received too late for insertion in its proper place.

-
- 26—Amos Tryon Harding married, Feb. 9, 1865, Elizabeth Ann Snyder; had:
60—Forest S., b. 1866.
61—Eudora Lucinda, b. Jan. 7, 1868.
62—Perry Mark, b. Oct. 28, 1870.
63—John Clark, b. Oct. 28, 1870.
64—Harriet Robena, b. Aug. 11, 1884.
- 27—Harriet R. Harding, b. March 29, 1842, married, Nov. 1, 1864, Henry E. Dudley; had:
65—Carrie I., b. Sept. 8, 1865, d. April 8, 1920.
66—Ord L. Dudley, b. Nov. 25, 1867.
- 29—Augustus Wellington Harding married, 1870, Levina Goff; had:
70—Mallie E., b. July 3, 1871.
71—Murtie B.
72—Bernie J. b. March 29, 1875.
73—Claude M., b. Nov. 30, 1876.
74—Gifford W., b. July 11, 1885.
75—Jennie May (Jackson), b. Nov. 19, 1886.
76—Anna Mabel (Kramer), b. Sept. 9, 1888.
- 31—Amanda I. Harding married, Dec. 18, 1879, George W. Edwards; had:
81—Jay C., b. March 21, 1883.
82—William Perry, b. Aug. 2, 1881.
83—Donna, b. Sept. 5, 1884.
84—Addie May, b. May 1, 1887.
85—Hazel, b. May 13, 1892.
86—Georgia, (Freidman), b. April 11, 1895.

-
- 60—Forest S. Harding married, Oct. 27, 1887, Martha Day; had:
132—Mabel Ann, b. Dec. 7, 1889.
133—Jemima Ruth, b. Feb. 16, 1892.
134—Perry Marcus, b. July 19, 1899.
135—Yula Gertrude, b. April 19, 1903.
136—Warren Leroy, b. Sept. 28, 1905.
- 61—Eudora Harding married, April 10, 1889, Justin Trengel; had:
192—Otto Frederick, b. March 1, 1891.
193—Anna Irene, b. Jan. 22, 1893.
194—Alvin Amos, b. Jan. 15, 1898.
- 62—Perry Mark Harding married, Maude Billow; had:
195—Mervin C., b. Feb. 22, 1902.
196—Mark Dale, b. July 8, 1904.
197—Alice E., b. Aug. 15, 1906.
198—Vera Lucele, b. Oct. 29, 1908.
199—Dorothy Ellen, b. July, 1913.
- 63—John Clark Harding married, Sept. 8, 1898, Dessir Johnson; had:
200—Virgil Seth, b. July 21, 1899.
201—William Clark, b. May 28, 1906.
- 64—Harriet Robena Harding married, 1st, John Graham; 2nd, Daniel Collins; had:
202—Glee Graham.
-
- 66—Ord L. Dudley married, Oct. 15, 1890, Mary Martha Evans; had:
203—Ray E., b. Dec. 22, 1891.
204—Clyde I., b. June 25, 1895.
205—Cleo Ranga, b. June 25, 1895.
206—Margaret, b. Oct. 12, 1898.
- 67—Dennis Perry Chambers married, Oct. 26, 1885, Blanche Huffman; 2nd, June 17, 1899, Irene Newman; had:
137—Blanche Marie (Arndt), b. Oct. 28, 1896.
138—Walter Clayton, b. Jan. 21, 1900.
139—Jessie Iva, b. Feb. 11, 1902.

-
- 140—Mildred Irene, b. Nov. 29, 1903.
Hilda Alice, b. Jan. 14, 1906.
Willard Virgil, b. May 5, 1915.
- 69—Jennie Isabenda Chambers married, March 16, 1898, Foster M. Cramer; had:
141—Cecil Emerson, b. June 15, 1899, m. Florence Baer.
142—John Oris, b. July 4, 1900.
143—Merrill Odell, b. Dec. 24, 1901.
Valley Margaret, b. Jan. 10, 1904.
Viola Oneta, b. March 12, 1913.
-
- 70—Mallie Harding married, Dec. 21, 1892, Albert Green; had: Helen (Tilman), Ethel, Grace (Holmes), Leonard and Robert.
- 71—Murtie B. Harding married, William Mitchell; had: Hazel (Parks), b. Oct. 21, 1895, Gladys (Miller), b. April 2, 1897.
- 72—Bernie J. Harding married, Lyda Robinson; had: Oliver and Janett.
- 73—Claude M. Harding married, Ora Cole; had: Burle (Danner), Fay (Sharrock), Dale, Valley, Vaughn.
- 74—Gifford W. Harding married, -----; had: Waldo, Addison, Hiram, Junior and Dianna.
-
- 77—Loren O. Harding, b. Aug. 24, 1875, married Nov. 26, 1919, Christiana Kreps Meyers.
-
- 81—J. C. Edwards married, Jan. 11, 1913, Margaret Wappner; had: George W., Frank L., Gretchen Ann.
- 84—Addie May Edwards married, March 31, 1918, Phil Roy Phelps; had: Jack Adelbert and Phil Roy, Jr.
- 85—Hazel Edwards married, Aug. 5, 1918, Harry Caton; had: Richard Edward.
-
- 132—Mabel Ann Harding married, June 3, 1912, William Holzworth; had: Gerald Burdett, Merrill Vaughn, Verna Belka and Opal Louise.

133—Jemima Ruth Harding married, Talmar Ricker; had: Martha Ann, Elenore Vadine, and Francis R.

134—Perry Marcus Harding, married Florence Gertinslager.

135—Yula Gertrude Harding, married Lester Dickerson.

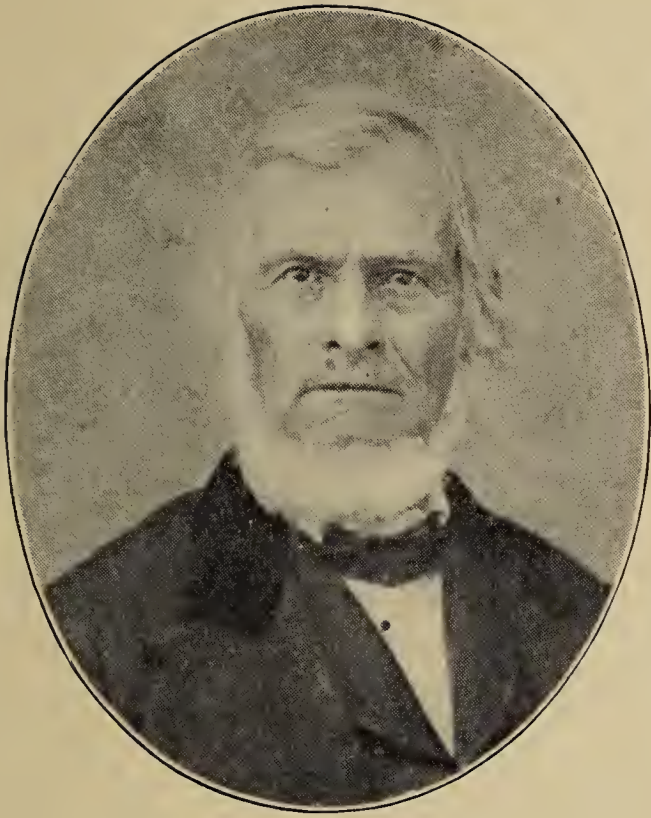
193—Anna Irene Trengel married, Oct. 26, 1912, Clarence Carlton; had: Rhea, Ralph, Dorothy and Donald.

203—Ray E. Dudley married, Blanche Puckett; had: Roy E., Elza Henry, James Leslie, Welthy Marie, Warren G., Cleo Ruby.

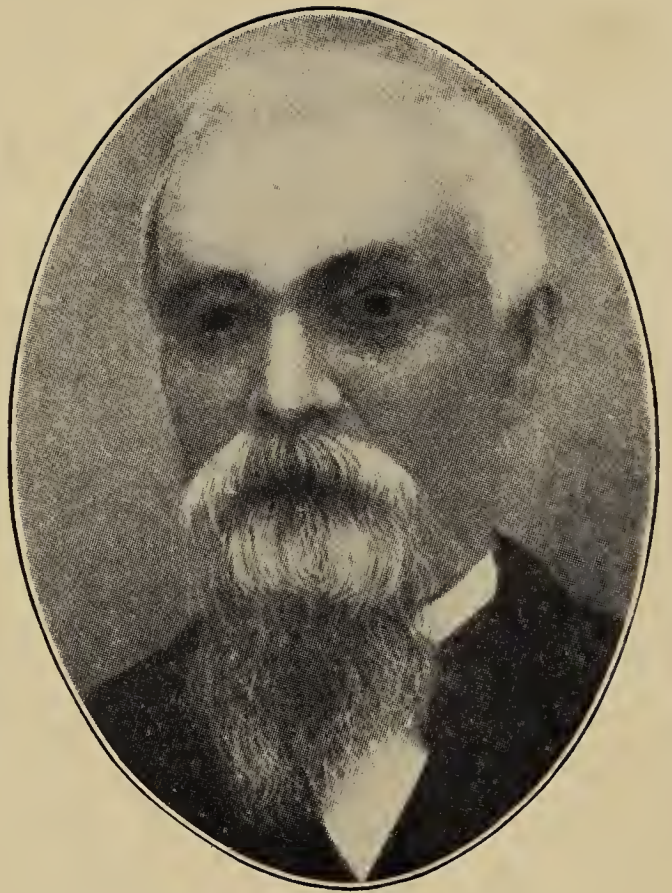
204—Clyde Dudley married, Fern Vivian Fisher; had: Oris Leslie, Richard Vaughn.

205—Cleon Ranga Dudley married, Walter Lee Beer; had: Robert Dudley, Flossie Elroy.

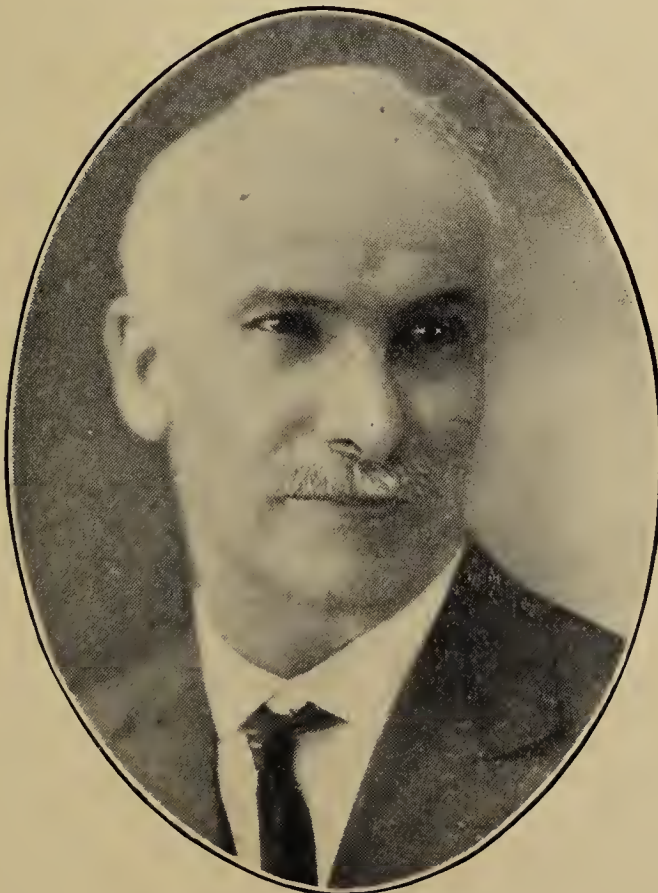
206—Margaret Rebecca Dudley married, Clifford George Thomas; had: Clifford, Jr., and Beatrice Margaret.



Mordecai R. Harding, Sr.



Mordecai R. Harding, Jr.



Wilbur J. Harding



Ralph Rice Harding

CHAPTER XIV.

WILBUR JUDD HARDING

WILBUR JUDD HARDING (31-5) was born on his father's farm in Richland county, Ohio, near the old village of Blooming Grove, now Corsica; January 4th, 1868. He is a son of Mordecai Rice Harding, Jr., a son of Mordecai Rice Harding, Sr., who was a son of Amos Harding. His mother was Catherine Snyder, a daughter of David and Leah (Browneller) Snyder.

In 1872 the family left Ohio and came to Iowa, locating first at Hopkinton, Delaware county, and two years later moved to Monticello, Jones county. They remained at the latter place until 1880, when they removed to Greeley, Delaware county, where they resided for a number of years.

The subject of this sketch received his common school education in the public schools at Monticello and at Greeley, and it was while attending school at the latter place he met Miss Lillie E. Lull, who later became his wife.

After leaving school he entered the drug business, but soon tiring of that profession he took up newspaper work, which he has since followed.

His first newspaper venture was as editor and proprietor of the Greeley Advertiser, but about a year proved enough of that and he went to western Kansas where he became editor and proprietor of the Lenora Monitor, and later of the Fremont Star. For about two years he was editor of the Hillsboro Herald.

Returning east in 1888 he went to South Dakota as editor and proprietor of the Winfred Ledger, editor of the Howard Press and later editor of the Jackson (Minn.) Republic.

June 2, 1890, he was married at Greeley to Miss Lillie E. Lull, who was born in Delaware county, Iowa, May 29, 1870. She was the daughter of Charles H. and Hester Mallory, but when at the age of three years her mother died she was adopted by Clark H. and Lucretia Lull, assuming the family name. She received her education in the Greeley public schools.

The subject of this sketch established the Elmore (Minn.) weekly "Eye" in 1891, and in 1893 returned to Iowa where he became superintendent of the mechanical department of the Record Printing Company at Cedar Rapids, a position he held for about

twelve years, retiring to go into business for himself, and in 1905 he established the Kenwood Park Printing Co. at Kenwood Park, a suburb of Cedar Rapids.

In 1912 with his family he came to Keystone, Benton county, Iowa, where he established the Harding Printing Company and began the publication of the Keystone Bulletin.

He is a member of Hope lodge No. 175, A. F. and A. M., Morning Star Chapter No. 108, O. E. S., at Belle Plaine, a 32nd degree member of Iowa Consistory at Cedar Rapids, a member of the Advisory Board, Order of DeMolay; holds membership in Keystone Lodge No. 35, I. O. O. F.; Petunia Rebekah lodge No. 135, and Kane Encampment No. 174, at Keystone, and Parlor City Homestead No. 30, B. of A. Y. at Cedar Rapids.

Has always been interested in educational work and served as member and secretary of school board at Kenwood Park for thirteen years and was elected secretary of Keystone Board of Education in 1913 and has served continuously in that office since; he is also a member of the Benton County Board of Education, his term expiring in 1927. He is also a county registrar of vital statistics for his district.

Many years ago he became interested in genealogical research work and for nearly thirty-five years has made it a study during spare hours, and has collected a vast amount of genealogical data concerning the Hardings and related families. His first book, "The Hardings," was published in 1907, and the revised work herewith, was completed early in 1925.

Five children were born to Wilbur J. and Lillie E. Harding, as follows:

Edith Lull Harding was born at Howard, S. D., April 4, 1891. She received her education in the public schools at Kenwood Park and later assisted her father in his office work. June 8, 1911, she was married to Charles A. Akers of Cedar Rapids. Mr. Akers was for a number of years an employe of the operating department of the C., R. I. & P. Ry., and served as station agent at several points in Iowa; was later employed as station agent on the A. T. & S. F. in Texas. At the present time he is employed in similar work for the C. & N. W. Ry. in Iowa.

Ralph Rice Harding was born at Elmore, Minn., June 25, 1892. Attended school at Kenwood Park and at Cedar Rapids,

Iowa, graduating from Washington High School of the latter place with the class of 1910. Came to Keystone in 1912 and became a member of the Harding Printing Co., associated with his father. At the first rumor of war with Germany he enlisted May 4, 1917, in Battery E., First Iowa Field Artillery and went into camp with that organization at Cedar Rapids July 4th, 1917. In September of that year his regiment was mustered into the United States service, becoming a part of the 126th Field Artillery, and was sent into training camp at Camp Cody, Deming, N. M. On April 6, 1918, just a year after the declaration of a state of war, he embarked with a replacement unit from Hoboken, N. J., for France, and entered final training as a member of Hdq. Co., 147 Field Artillery, A. E. F., and was in continuous service from July 1st until the signing of the Armistice, Nov. 11, 1918. He served on five major battle fronts, was promoted to 1st Corporal and was in charge of the orientation department of his regiment. He returned to the U. S. in May, 1919, and was discharged from service at Fort Des Moines, May 23, 1919. The following day he was united in marriage by Rev. Dillman Smith at Des Moines, to Miss Dorothea M. Klappholz, of Keystone, a daughter of Theodor and Anna Klappholz. He again took his place as a member of the Harding Printing Co., at Keystone. On Oct. 28th, 1919, he was instantly killed on the highway a short distance east of Keystone when an automobile in which he was riding was upset by another car backing into it. He is buried at Keystone. On July 2, 1920, a daughter, Lillian Ann was born to Mrs. Ralph R. Harding.

Laura Mae Harding was born at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, May 7, 1894. Received her education in the Kenwood Park schools, graduating therefrom in 1911. Came to Keystone with her parents and on April 23, 1916, was united in marriage to Mr. Herman F. Boysen, a son of J. Fred and Margaret Boysen. Mr. Boysen is a contracting painter and decorator. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Boysen, as follows: Harvey Harding, born April 19, 1917; Donald Ralph, born Dec. 16, 1918; Jean Louise, born Aug. 21, 1921; Doris Kathleen, born April 19, 1924.

Mary Marguerite Harding was born at Kenwood Park, Iowa, March 19, 1898. Was educated in public schools at that place, graduating in 1913; afterwards entered Keystone high school and graduated with class of 1914. On July 2, 1918 she was united in

marriage to Robert M. Harder, a son of Henry and Mata Harder of Keystone, who was a fellow classmate in Keystone high school. Mr. Harder was for some time assistant cashier of the Iowa State bank at Keystone, but later established a general real estate and insurance business which he still conducts.

Wilberta Janice Harding was born at Kenwood Park, Iowa, August 12, 1903. Received her education in the public schools at Kenwood Park and at Keystone, graduating from the high school of the latter place in 1920. On October 19, 1922 she was married to Mr. Hubert F. Dotsen, a native of Virginia. Mr. Dotsen came to Iowa in 1917 as an employe of the Harding Printing Co., and at present is a member of that concern and in charge of the mechanical department. Mrs. Dotson is also employed in the mechanical department as operator of the typesetting machine.

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